



# REPORT

## ON THE WORK OF THE INDIAN POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS DEPARTMENT

1939-40



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# **REPORT**

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## **INDIAN POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS DEPARTMENT**

for the period

1st April 1939 to 31st March 1940

By

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15th December 1940



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# Report on the work of the Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department 1939-40

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## CHAPTER I.

### GENERAL REVIEW.

The activities and fortunes of the Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department were profoundly influenced during the year 1939-40 by the declaration of War against Germany by His Majesty's Government and the Governments of the Empire on the 3rd of September 1939. Industrial and commercial activities in the country received a fillip due to the enormously increased demand for all kinds of products of the country and the organised efforts made to utilise India's vast resources in men and materials. In the months immediately preceding the declaration of war various preliminary steps had been taken by the Department in view of the strained conditions in Europe between Germany on the one side and the British Empire and France on the other. With the declaration of war, all postal telegraph and telephone communications with enemy countries were immediately stopped and censorship was imposed on communications between India and outside countries. The Department took the necessary steps to ensure that no mails or telegrams entered or left the country or transited it without having passed through a duly constituted censorship station. The all-up Air Mail Scheme which was working with increasing efficiency had to be suspended at once and the surcharge system with a materially increased rate had to be re-imposed, so as to reduce materially the heavy burden of mails on the planes, which had to provide space for the conveyance of essential military personnel and freight. The conveyance of foreign mails by surface routes was affected owing to the control on shipping imposed by the Governments of the Empire countries. Numerous export and import restrictions on goods and money, imposed as a part of the system of economic warfare, had to be observed by the postal authorities. The outbreak of war saw some material increase in withdrawals from Post Office savings banks and in the encashment of Post Office cash certificates, but adequate arrangements were made to ensure prompt payment and the rush slackened off within a few months. On the telegraph side there was a considerable increase in traffic which on some days was more than three to four times the normal volume. Apart from censorship, numerous restrictions relating to the use of abbreviated addresses and the use of codes had to be



imposed. All overseas telephone communications were immediately cut off mainly due to the difficulty of exercising censorship on telephonic conversations. The inland trunk traffic rose steeply and caused considerable congestion and consequent delay. An urgent class of traffic was, therefore, introduced in the last quarter of the year and the period during which half rate calls could be made was curtailed by four hours. These measures contributed to a large extent in getting the traffic through within a reasonable period. Full control of wireless installations was taken over by the Indian Naval authorities in regard to communications with ships at sea, and communication with aircraft was restricted to messages authorised and necessary for the safety and regularity of air navigation. All private wireless transmitting licenses were cancelled and a strict watch and censorship was maintained on every form of wireless communication. The large increase in traffic in all the branches and the introduction of numerous regulations threw a heavy burden on the staff of the Department and I am glad to record that the staff rose to the occasion and discharged their duties with their traditional loyalty and devotion.

### Magnitude of business.

The following figures give some idea of the volume of business transacted by the Department during the year :—

	Approximately..
Total estimated number of postal articles handled .	1,255 millions.
Number of registered articles posted . . . .	39.3 „
Number of insured articles posted . . . .	2.5 „
Value of insured articles posted . . . . Rs.	77.3 crores.
Number of money orders issued . . . .	42 millions.
Value of money orders issued . . . . Rs.	75.8 crores.
Amount collected from the value-payable post . Rs.	14.9 „
Number of Savings bank accounts current on 31st March 1940 . . . . .	4.6 millions.
Total balance in the Savings bank account on 31st March 1940 . . . . . Rs.	78.3 crores.
Amount invested in Post Office Cash Certificates during the year . . . . . Rs.	10.4 „
Amount paid to investors on the discharge of Post Office Cash Certificates during the year . . Rs.	14.5 „
Number of postal life insurance policies in existence on 31st March 1940 . . . . .	101,000
Amount assured . . . . . Rs.	20.0 crores.
Amount of military pensions paid by Post Offices . Rs.	1.7 „

	Approximately.
Number of telegrams . . . . .	18.6 millions.
Total number of signalling operations performed .	92.6 „
Number of Government Telephone exchanges existing on 31st March 1940 . . . . .	602
Number of telephones connected to Government telephone exchanges . . . . .	34,500
Number of licensed telephone exchanges (main) .	24
Number of telephones connected to the licensed Telephone exchanges . . . . .	54,900
Number of effective outgoing trunk calls handled (excluding Service calls) . . . . .	2.9 millions.

Compared with the corresponding figures for 1938-39 these figures represent an increase in business except in the case of registered, insured and value payable articles, net deposits in savings bank and cash certificate transactions, where there were some small decreases.

### Monetary Transactions.

An idea of the volume of the monetary transactions of the Department can be gained by a reference to Appendix III on page 42. The total of these transactions amounted to nearly 298 crores of rupees.

### Principal events.

**International Postal Congress at Buenos Aires.**—The Eleventh Congress of the Universal Postal Union met at Buenos Aires on 1st April 1939 and concluded its session on 23rd May 1939. Messrs. Mohd. al Hasan, H. L. Jerath and N. Chandra attended the Congress as delegates from British India.

**Changes in inland services.**—(a) The concession of transmission at book packet rates of postage was extended to printed market reports, quotations for goods and price lists, with the necessary entries in manuscript relating to particulars of prices.

(b) The transmission of business reply cards and envelopes stitched or fastened to a registered newspaper was permitted.

(c) The issue of window delivery tickets for a period of three calendar months at a time instead of for a period from the date of issue of the ticket to the end of the following March as hitherto, was authorised.

**Changes in foreign services.**—(a) The extension of facilities in the Foreign Post included the resumption of insured letter and parcel service to certain places in China to which the service had been temporarily suspended, the introduction of a V. P. service (letter and parcel) with Makalla (Gulf of Aden), and the participation of Palestine in the Imperial Scheme for the issue and exchange of Imperial reply-coupons.

(b) The maximum limit for the insurance of letters to China and Iceland was reduced to £60 and £80 respectively.

**Suspension of the Empire Air Mail Scheme.**—The “All-Up” air mail service which had been in operation for just over 1½ years had to be suspended as soon as war was declared against Germany. The frequency of services was at first reduced from five to two (seaplane) services a week between the United Kingdom and Australia *via* India. Later two more services by landplane were introduced and operated between the United Kingdom and Calcutta.

With the suspension of the Empire Air Mail Scheme ordinary first class mails which used to be carried by air without any surcharge, for and from countries that participated in the Scheme were diverted by the surface route and air conveyance was permitted only to surcharged correspondence. The postage for surface transmission was fixed at 2½ annas for the first ounce and two annas for each additional ounce in the case of letters and the rate for postcards remained unchanged. The inclusive rate of air surcharge and postage in case of participating countries was fixed at 14 annas per ½ oz. in the case of letters and 6 annas per postcard. (This rate for postcards has since been reduced to 4 annas). The air surcharge rates in case of non-participating countries were also proportionately increased.

**Indian Postal Orders.**—As the four denominations of Indian Postal Orders, *viz.*, 8 annas, Re. 1, Rs. 5 and Rs. 10, necessitated the use of postage stamps of high value to make up broken amounts, and as there was also a growing public demand for orders for intermediate amounts, Indian Postal Orders of 20 denominations starting from 8 annas and rising by steps of 8 annas to Rs. 10 were introduced with effect from the 1st April 1939.

The period of currency of these was extended from 3 months to 6 months for payment without any extra commission and to a further period of six months for payment with an extra commission of one anna.

**Rates for newspapers.**—From the 1st April 1939 the following concessional rates of postage were prescribed for packets of registered newspapers, which are deliverable only at the window of the post office of destination to the registered local agent of the paper :—

For the first 10 tolas or fraction thereof . . . Half an anna.

For every additional 5 tolas or fraction thereof . . . Quarter of an anna.

**Express delivery system.**—The system of accepting book packets for transmission by post under the express delivery system, which was in force as a temporary measure from August 1938, was made permanent from the 1st August 1939.

**Broadcast Receiver Licences.**—The concessional fee of Rs. 9 for broadcast receiver licences renewed before the due date of expiry

was withdrawn with effect from the 1st January 1940 and a fee of Rs. 10 per annum is now payable for new licences as well as for renewed licences. A set of rules for the compounding of the offence of radio piracy was also introduced.

**Urgent press telegrams.**—A uniform rate of  $6\frac{1}{2}$  annas per word instead of 13 annas per word for urgent press telegrams from India to certain countries in the British Empire was introduced as a temporary measure.

**Restrictions on foreign telegraph traffic.**—Consequent on the declaration of War, several restrictions had to be placed on foreign telegraph traffic. From the 1st September 1939, Censorship was imposed on Foreign private telegrams, and the use of code and cipher as also the use of abbreviated addresses was prohibited. The transmission of telegrams to Germany was also completely stopped. Gradually, however, some of these restrictions were relaxed and the use of two Commercial Codes was allowed from 1st January 1940 and of two other Codes from 7th February, 1940. Further relaxations have been granted since the close of the year under report.

**E. F. M. Telegrams.**—From the 15th February 1940, a special class of telegrams, classed E. F. M., was introduced for the benefit of H. M.'s Army and Air Forces. The charges for this class of telegram are low, and the address is free.

**Night Letter Telegrams.**—The Night Letter Telegram service, which was introduced with most of the countries in the British Empire from 1st December 1938, was made applicable to Egypt from 1st June 1939.

**Empire Social Telegram (GLT).**—A new class of telegrams called the Empire Social Telegram (GLT)—relating solely to greetings, family news or personal affairs of a non-commercial character, was introduced from the 14th December 1939, and was available throughout the year between India and all Empire countries at the flat rate of Rs. 3-6-0 for 13 words or less (including the class prefix "GLT") and  $4\frac{1}{2}$  annas for each additional word. Such telegrams, for the purpose of transmission or delivery to a territory or place to which the N. L. T. service is available, are delivered on the morning of the day following the day of acceptance; where there is no N. L. T., but only a D. L. T. service available, Empire Social Telegrams are delivered on the morning of the second day following the day of acceptance or as soon thereafter as possible.

The accessory services of this class of telegrams are "Reply Paid" and "de Luxe". In the case of the latter a supplementary charge of 4 annas is made.

**"Faire Suivre" Telegrams.**—From September 1939 the system of "FS" or "Faire Suivre" telegrams already in existence for Foreign telegrams, was introduced for Inland telegrams, as an experimental measure. Under this system a telegram would follow the

addressee and would be redirected by telegraph from one place to another until it is delivered to him or no further address is available. The charges involved in the redirection are recovered from the addressee or from the sender if the former refuses to pay. This service has since been discontinued as it was found that there was no demand for it in the inland service.

**Urgent Private Inland Trunk Calls.**—A special class of “ Urgent Private Inland Trunk Call ” charged at double the corresponding rate for ordinary calls was introduced from 1st January 1940. The half rate period for trunk calls was altered from the same date from “ 8 P.M. to 8 A.M.” to “ 10 P.M. to 6 A.M.” on week days. These changes were necessitated by the abnormal increase in Trunk Telephone traffic due to war conditions.

**Reversed Charge Call.**—This class of service was introduced in July 1939 mainly for the benefit of newspapers and business concerns, who might find it more convenient themselves to pay the charges on calls made to them by their correspondents and commercial travellers. Under this system, the charges are recovered from the called subscriber instead of from the calling subscriber.

**Telegraph Holidays.**—For many years, the Telegraph Branch of the Department observed only four holidays in the year apart from Sundays, *viz.*, Good Friday, King’s Birthday, Christmas Day and New Year’s Day. During the year under report it was decided to grant two more holidays to this Branch, *viz.*, Id-uz-Zuha (Bakr Id) and Diwali (Kali Puja).

### Developments in Wireless Telegraphs.

Short wave transmitters were installed at a number of stations with a view to provide a second channel of communication on short wave for point to point traffic on the Trans-India Air Route between Karachi and Calcutta, leaving the normal medium wave channel free for ground-to-air communication. The short wave channel is also used for the interchange of synoptic weather broadcasts. The opening of this short wave channel has, incidentally, made available an emergency channel of communication between aircraft and ground stations when atmospherics make the medium wave channel unworkable.

Adcock direction finding stations were completed, calibrated and brought into service at two stations thereby completing the chain from Karachi to Calcutta of accurate direction finding stations fitted with the latest type of apparatus.

The installation of a twin channel Adcock direction-finding receiver was completed at another station and calibration carried out, thereby providing simultaneous direction finding facilities for both aeronautical and marine wireless services.

**Renting of telegraph circuits to Messrs. Reuters Limited Bombay.**—The following additional circuits were rented to Messrs. Reuters Ltd. during the year for direct teleprinter working :—

Bombay-Poona.

Bombay-Ahmedabad.

New Delhi-Lucknow.

Lucknow-Allahabad.

Allahabad-Patna.

Lucknow-Cawnpore.

Simla-Delhi (summer season only).

### **Telephone Development.**

The year continued to be one of expansion and of planning for further expansion in future years. Seven new telephone exchanges and thirteen new trunk circuits were opened and a carrier service between Calcutta and Madras was completed. The installation of a three-channel telephone carrier between Delhi and Simla *via* Ambala was completed soon after the close of the year. The works in connection with establishing multichannel Telegraph and Telephone carrier Circuits between Delhi and Calcutta and between Bombay and Karachi are in progress. Due to difficulties in obtaining the necessary equipment after the outbreak of War it was not possible to open these circuits during the year 1939-40, but it is hoped that they may be nearing completion before the end of 1940-41.

### **Technical Activities of the Department.**

The following items of special interest may be mentioned :—

- (a) The range of Teleprinter working which has hitherto been limited to about 200 miles has now been greatly extended by the introduction of regenerative repeaters.
- (b) Telex working has been introduced on certain trunk lines with success.
- (c) A high speed telegraph relay of greater sensitiveness and free from distortion has been designed and manufactured in the Workshops and is now under service trials.
- (d) A thorough overhaul of the carrier equipment on the Calcutta-Bombay route was undertaken and successfully completed by Departmental staff, resulting in a considerable improvement of the service.

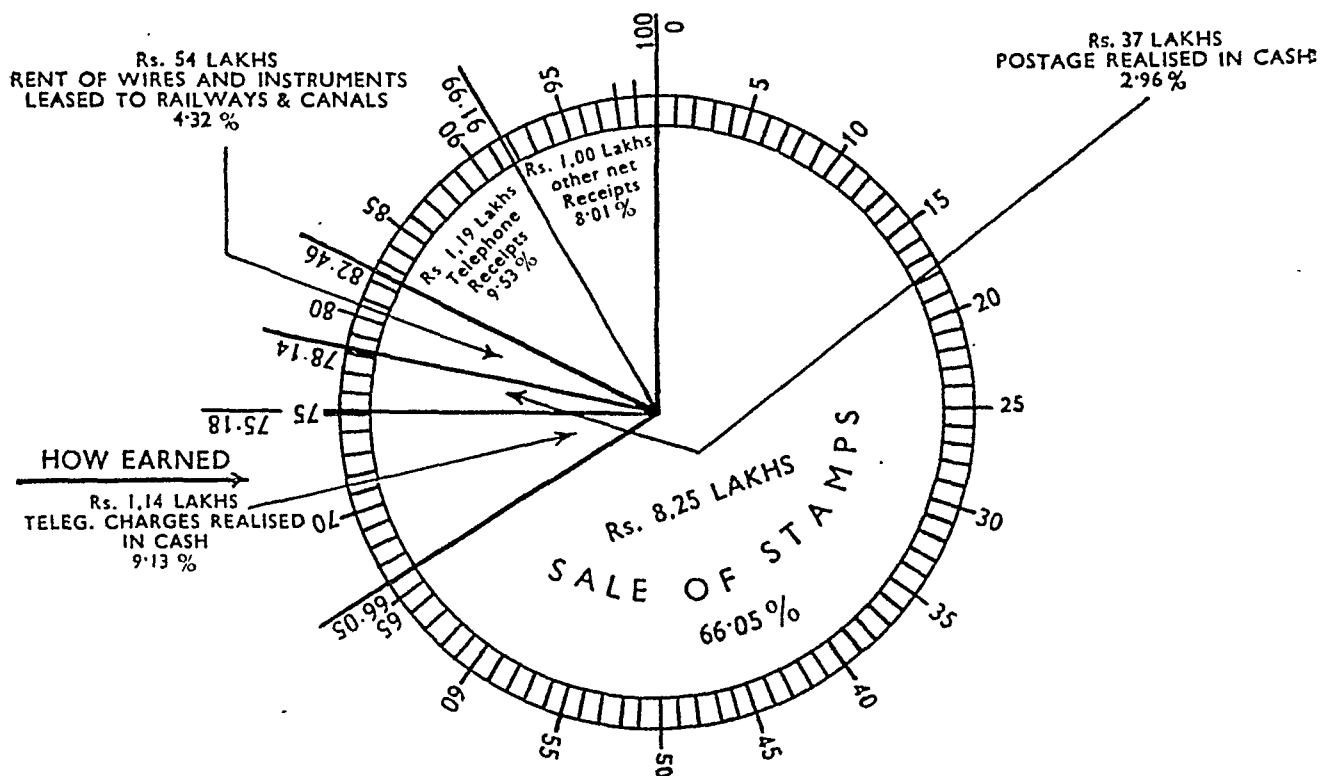
- (e) The first long distance carrier loaded cable was laid in Bombay and acceptance tests were conducted by the Department.
- (f) An outstanding achievement of the year is the manufacture by the Department of a telegraph carrier equipment which is now in service on the Lucknow-Allahabad route.



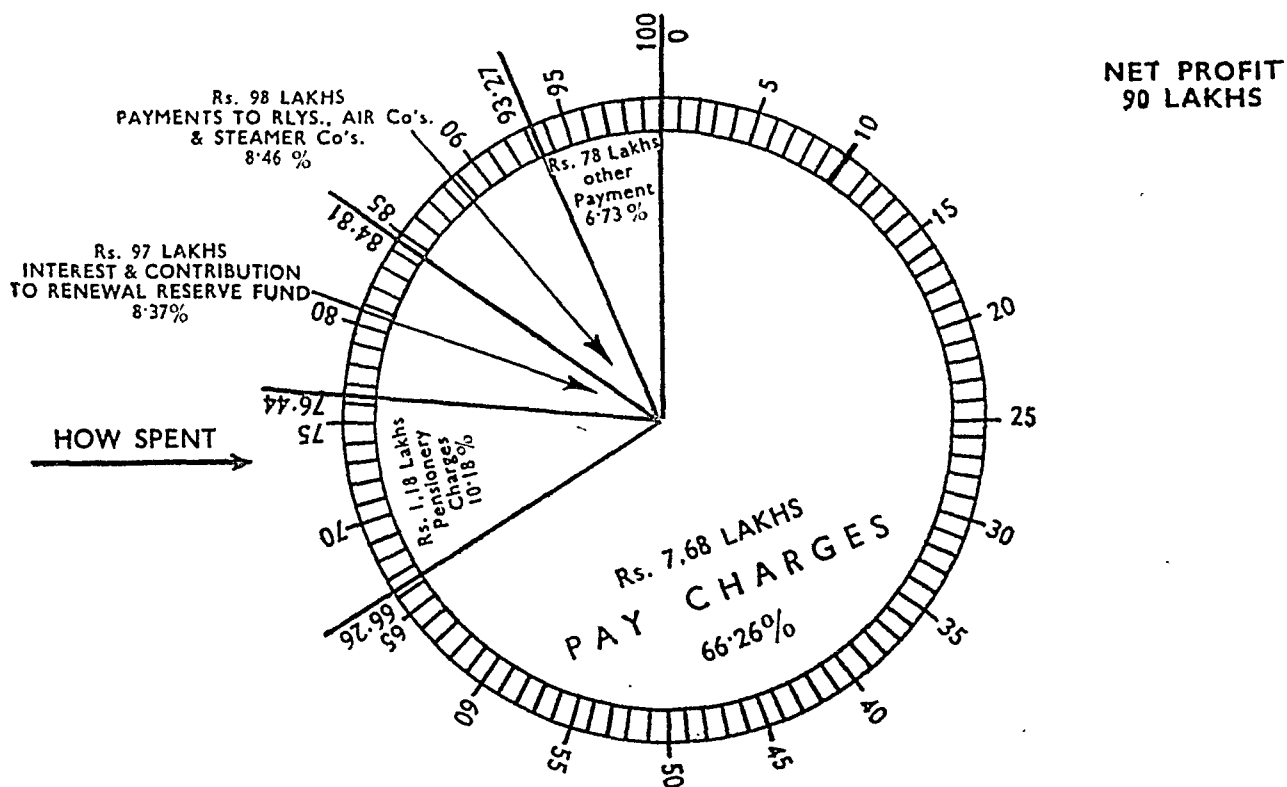


# Receipts and Expenditure of the Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department, 1939-40.

## RECEIPTS



## EXPENDITURE



## CHAPTER II.

### FINANCIAL REVIEW.

#### General.

The financial results of the working of the Department for the year 1939-40 are summarised below :—

—	Post Office.	Telegraphs.	Telephones.	Radios.	Total.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Receipts .	8,31,81,509	2,83,40,669	1,21,40,659	11,89,520	12,48,52,357
Expenditure.	7,78,13,898	2,83,42,950	85,94,745	11,41,513	11,58,93,106
Surplus (+) or Deficit (—).	+53,67,611	—2,281	+35,45,914	+48,007	+89,59,251

The graph on the opposite page shows how the revenue is earned and spent. It will be noticed that about 66 per cent. of the receipts are from sale of stamps for postal as well as for telegraph and other purposes while about the same percentage of the total expenditure is on pay and pensionary charges.

The net results compare with those for the year 1938-39 as follows :—

		Net results of the year's working.	
		1938-39.	1939-40.
		Rs.	Rs.
Post Office . . . . .		+35,28,292	+53,67,611
Telegraphs . . . . .		—37,77,458	—2,281
Telephones . . . . .		+21,05,198	+35,45,914
Radios . . . . .		+41,767	+48,007
Total		+18,97,799	+89,59,251

The following table gives the total revenue and the total expenditure charged against the revenue of the Posts and Telegraphs Department during each of the years since 1925-26 from

which year the accounts of the Department began to be maintained on a commercial basis :—

Year.	Total revenue.	Increase (+) or decrease (—) compared with previous year.	Total expenditure charged to revenue.	Increase (+) or decrease (—) compared with previous year.	Profit (+) or loss (—)
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(In thousands of rupees.)

1925-26 . . .	10,21,38	..	9,84,34	..	+37,04
1926-27 . . .	10,53,03	+31,65	10,42,79	+58,45	+10,24
1927-28 . . .	10,82,71	+29,68	11,08,86	+66,07	+26,15
1928-29 . . .	11,03,65	+20,94	11,57,48	+48,62	+53,83
1929-30 . . .	11,29,49	+25,84	11,91,94	+34,46	+62,45
1930-31 . . .	10,77,86	—51,63	12,11,35	+19,41	—1,33,49
1931-32 . . .	10,64,60	—13,26	11,58,44	—52,91	—93,84
1932-33 . . .	10,55,40	—9,20	10,97,29	—61,15	—41,89
1933-34 . . .	10,72,62	+17,22	11,24,55	+27,26	—51,93
1934-35 . . .	11,19,87	+47,25	10,81,93	—42,62	+37,94
1935-36 . . .	11,47,57	+27,70	11,47,10	+65,17	+47
1936-37 . . .	11,69,03	+21,46	11,54,48	+7,38	+14,55

Burma and Aden were separated from India from the end of the year 1936-37.

1937-38 . . .	11,49,90	..	10,92,64	..	+57,26
1938-39 . . .	11,67,60	+17,70	11,48,62	+55,98	+18,98
1939-40 . . .	12,48,52	+80,92	11,58,93	+10,31	+89,59

The accounts of the Department continued to show losses of varying amounts from 1927-28 to 1933-34. In 1934-35 there accrued a surplus of Rs. 37·94 lakhs. But, as has been stated in the report for that year, this was not a real surplus because in that year the salaries of the staff continued to be subject to the emergency cut of 5 per cent. and the contribution to the Depreciation Fund was not made to the full extent. The accounts of the year 1935-36 showed a small surplus of Rs. 47,000 but in this year too the emergency deduction was applied to the salaries of March 1935 paid in April of that year and if this deduction had not been made the year's accounts would have shown a loss of about Rs. 2 lakhs. The accounts for the years 1936-37, 1937-38 and 1938-39 showed surpluses of Rs. 14·55 lakhs, Rs. 57·26 lakhs and Rs. 18·98 lakhs respectively. The accounts for the year 1939-40 now under report show a surplus of Rs. 89·59 lakhs. This is the largest surplus that has been realised since the accounts of the Department were placed on a commercial basis in 1925-26 and has been almost entirely due to the unprecedented increase in postal, telegraph and telephone traffic due to the war. The increase of Rs. 80·92 lakhs shown under revenue for 1939-40 in the preceding table is made up of increases of about Rs. 19 lakhs under "Post Office", about Rs. 40 lakhs under "Telegraphs", about Rs. 21 lakhs under "Telephones" and about

Rs. 1 lakh under "Radios". The expenditure on the other hand increased by Rs. 10·31 lakhs only in spite of the fact that the Department had to meet the normal increases on account of annual increments in the salaries of the staff (about Rs. 9 lakhs) and an increase in the pension bill including commutations (about Rs. 5 lakhs). This was rendered possible by continuing to observe all reasonable economy in expenditure and by utilising more fully the normally unused (spare) capacity of the existing staff.

As stated in the Report for the preceding year, the unpaid balance of the large accumulated loss on press traffic amounting to over Rs. 204 lakhs stood at about Rs. 17 lakhs at the end of the year 1938-39. Of this, Rs. 8½ lakhs was paid out of revenue in the beginning of the year 1939-40, and the balance has been met from the surplus of the year. At the end of the year under report the Department has thus not only been able to liquidate completely all the arrear losses which had accumulated since 1927-28, but has been able to carry forward a surplus of about 82 lakhs.

The capital outlay of the Department during and to the end of 1939-40 is detailed in Appendix I. The total net expenditure on fixed assets during the year amounted to Rs. 29,06,864 after allowing for credits to capital account on account of sale and abandonment of assets, and was incurred as follows :—

	Rs.
Post Office buildings and mail vans . . .	(—) 9,280
Telegraph buildings, cables, lines and apparatus .	14,18,053
Radio buildings, masts and aerials and apparatus .	1,58,435
Telephone buildings, lines and apparatus . .	13,39,656
Total .	<u>29,06,864</u>

The bulk of the capital outlay under "Telegraphs" and "Telephones" was incurred on new telephone projects. More trunk lines have been constructed and new exchanges installed thus providing increased facilities. The telephone branch continues to be remunerative and avenues of further expansion are being continually explored. Some capital expenditure was incurred on account of telegraph and telephone lines required by the Railway and Canal Administrations and also in connection with wireless facilities required for civil aviation purposes. The Department recovers rental for such projects to meet the full cost of the services rendered. Out of the total interest-bearing capital outlay of the Department amounting to over 17½ crores of rupees, over 15 crores represent the cost of telegraph, telephone and radio assets, and a little over 2½ crores, the cost of buildings and other assets of the Postal branch.

## Financial results of the working of the individual branches of the Department.

**Post Office.**—The results of the year under report compare with those of the year 1938-39, as shown below :—

	1938-39.	1939-40.
	Rs.	Rs.
Receipts . . . . .	8,12,73,618	8,31,81,509
Expenditure . . . . .	7,77,45,326	7,78,13,898
Net profit . . . . .	35,28,292	53,67,611

The increase of about 19 lakhs in postal receipts in the year under report was partly due to heavier traffic due to the war and partly to smaller payments to other Postal Administrations.

The increase in expenditure amounts to a little over half a lakh of rupees.

**Telegraphs.**—The results for the year under review compare as shown below with those for the year 1938-39 :—

	1938-39.	1939-40.
	Rs.	Rs.
Receipts . . . . .	2,43,04,180	2,83,40,660
Expenditure . . . . .	2,80,81,647	2,83,42,950
Net loss . . . . .	37,77,458	2,281

The increase of over Rs. 40 lakhs in telegraph receipts is due to the large increase in telegraph traffic on account of greater commercial and Governmental activity as also to the restriction on the use of foreign code messages as a result of the declaration of war. The increase of about Rs. 2½ lakhs in expenditure was mainly due to annual increments of pay of staff and increase in pensionary and repair charges, partly counter-balanced by savings in other directions. For the first time in many years, the telegraph branch has earned enough to meet all its expenditure.

**Telephones.**—The results for the year compare as shown below with those for the year 1938-39 :—

	1938-39.	1939-40.
	Rs.	Rs.
Receipts . . . . .	1,00,72,931	1,21,40,659
Expenditure . . . . .	79,67,733	85,94,745
Profit . . . . .	21,05,198	35,45,914

The increase of about Rs. 21 lakhs in revenue is made up of an increase of about Rs. 6 lakhs under "Rent of Telephones" and Rs. 15 lakhs under "Trunk Call Fees". This was mainly due to the increase in traffic due to the war. The increase of about Rs. 6

lakhs in expenditure was due to the grant of annual increments to staff, increase in staff, larger pensionary and repair charges and larger contribution to the Renewals Reserve Fund consequent on the adoption of a revised principle of apportionment of the total contribution among the various branches of the Department.

**Radio Telegraphs.**—The results of the two years 1938-39 and 1939-40 are compared below :—

	1938-39.	1939-40.
	Rs.	Rs.
Receipts . . . . .	11,09,153	11,89,520
Expenditure . . . . .	10,67,386	11,41,513
Profit . . . . .	41,767	48,007

The graphs on the following pages show the financial results of the working of the Department as a whole as well as of each of its branches since 1925-26. The accounts of the Department have been maintained on a commercial basis only from that year and the Department has not only to pay interest on its capital outlay but has also to pay for all the services rendered to it by other Departments of Government. Correspondingly it recovers the cost of services rendered by it to other Departments of Government.

An attempt has also been made to compare the receipts on account of postal, telegraph and telephone traffic on the one hand with those from State Railways and Customs duties on the other. It is not possible at this stage to draw any definite conclusions as to how the growth or fall of one kind of traffic is an indication of the probable growth or fall of traffic of another, but a study of these figures over a series of years might give valuable data for future guidance.

## CHAPTER III.

## POST OFFICE.

## Postal Communications.

The Postal Branch of the Department is responsible for the maintenance of postal communications and the various subsidiary services throughout India. For this purpose, it makes use of aeroplanes, railways, motor and steamship services in addition to lines established and worked by the Department itself. Excluding air routes, there existed at the end of the year over 158,000 miles of routes over which mails were carried by different agencies as compared with over 157,000 during the previous year. The increase occurred both in the mileage covered by runners and boats and by motor lines by about 500 and 900 miles respectively, 55 new mail motor lines having been introduced during the year. Particulars of the principal steamer services used by the Post Office are given in Appendix XVIII and of the Air Services in the paragraphs on Air Mails in this chapter.

## Maintenance.

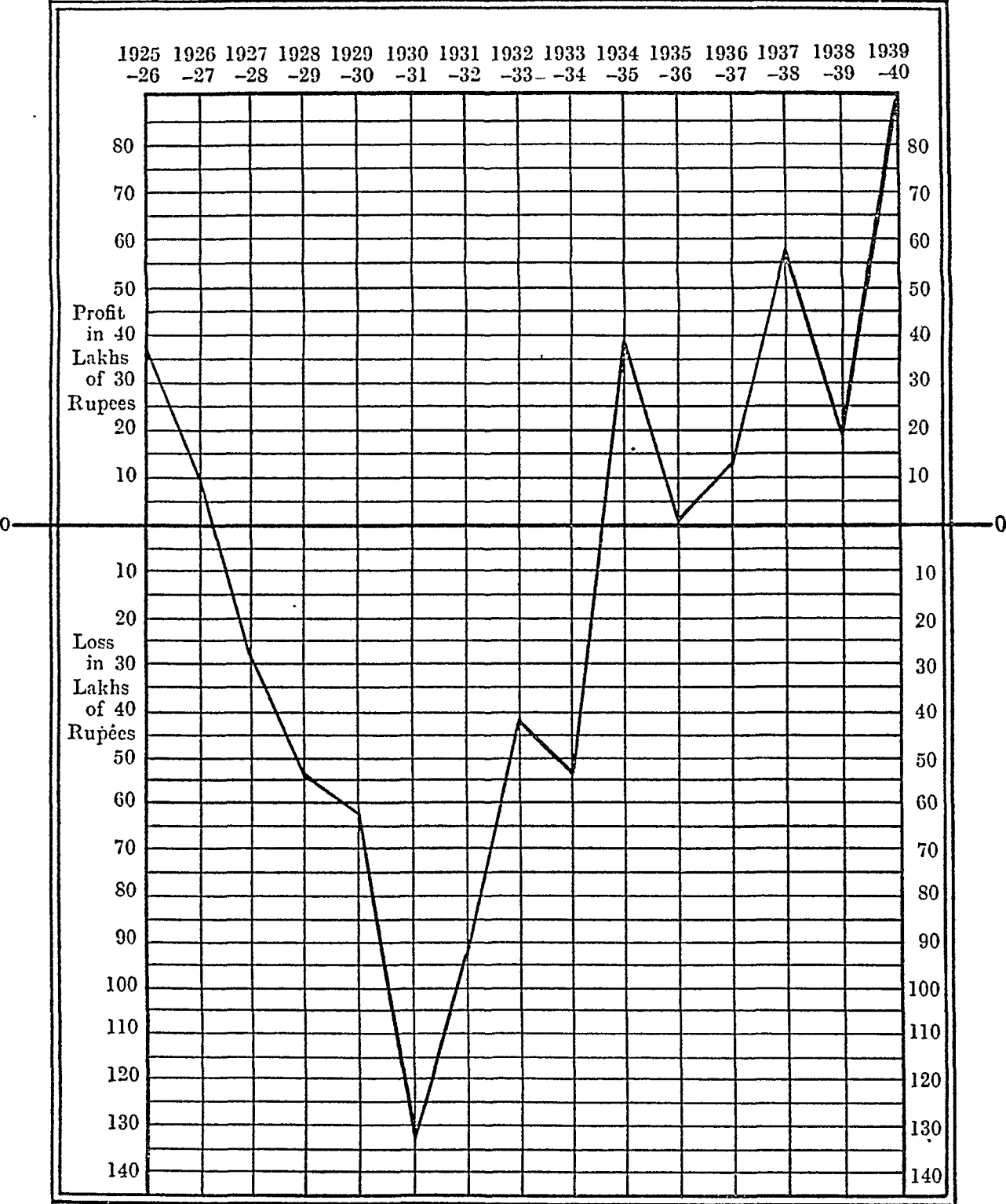
Communications were satisfactorily maintained throughout the year and the usual inevitable interruptions of the mail service due to floods, landslips and railway accidents did not entail any serious dislocation. The most important of such interruptions were caused by railway accidents in Bengal and the Central Provinces and floods in Bihar, Bombay and Madras, but in all such cases arrangements were made to carry the mails by an alternative route or by a different means of conveyance with the least practicable delay.

## Air Mails.

The following statement shows the number of flights made and the weight of mails excluding transit mails carried by the different air services during the years 1938-39 and 1939-40.

Name of the Company.	Name of the Service.		Number of flights.		Weight of mails carried.	
			1938-39.	1939-40.	1938-39.	1939-40.
					Lbs.	Lbs.
Imperial Airways and Indian Trans-Continental Airways.	England--India.	Eastbound	264	215	507,697	245,037
		Westbound	241	219	371,825	208,477
	India—Singapore—Australia.	Eastbound	256	209	262,412	136,679
		Westbound	243	210	219,588	136,480

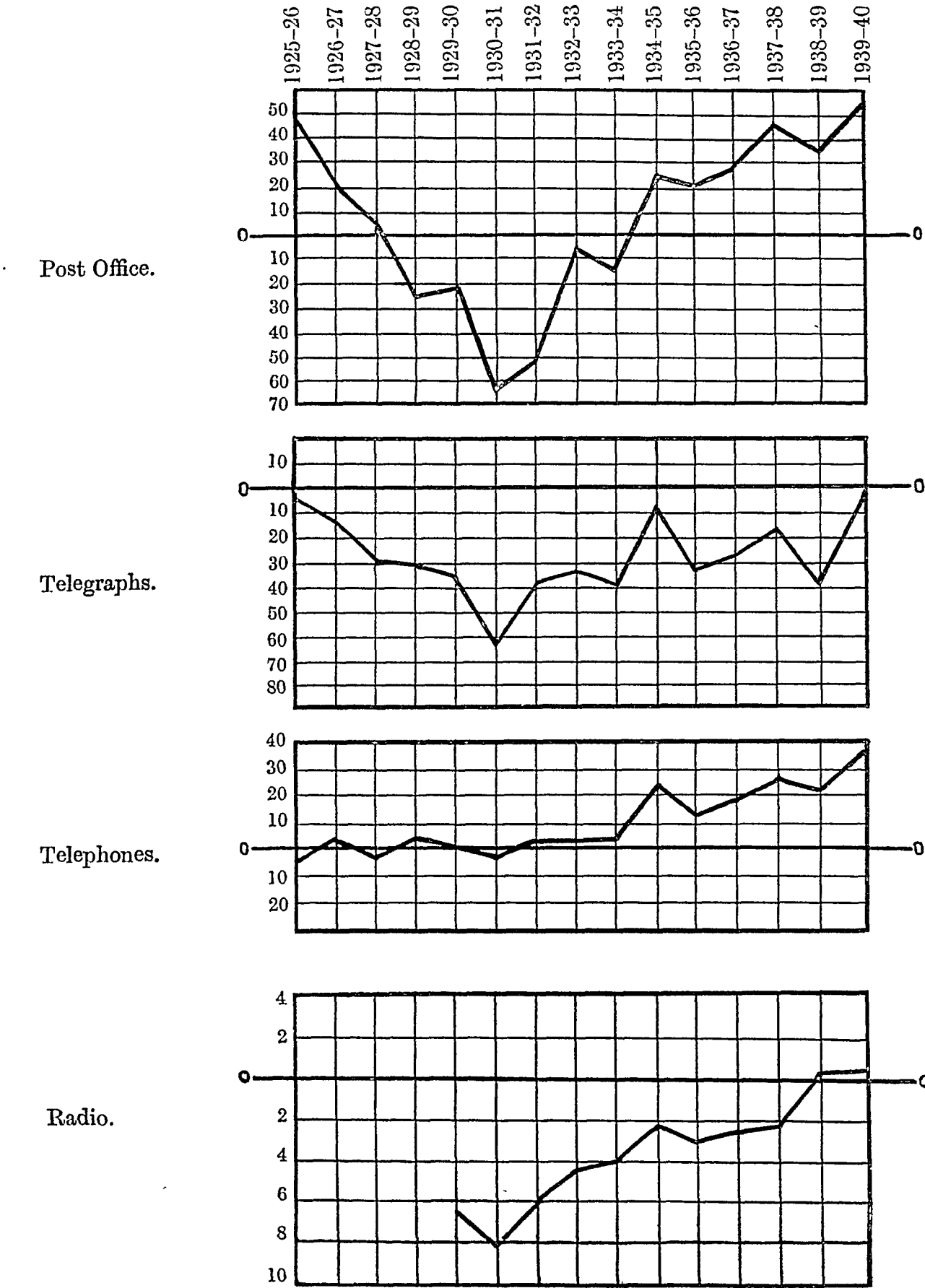
Financial Result of the working of the Posts and Telegraphs Department.  
 (The accounts of the Department began to be maintained on a commercial basis with effect from the financial year 1925-26.)







# Financial Result of the working of each branch of the Posts and Telegraphs Department. (Profit and Loss in Lakhs of rupees)

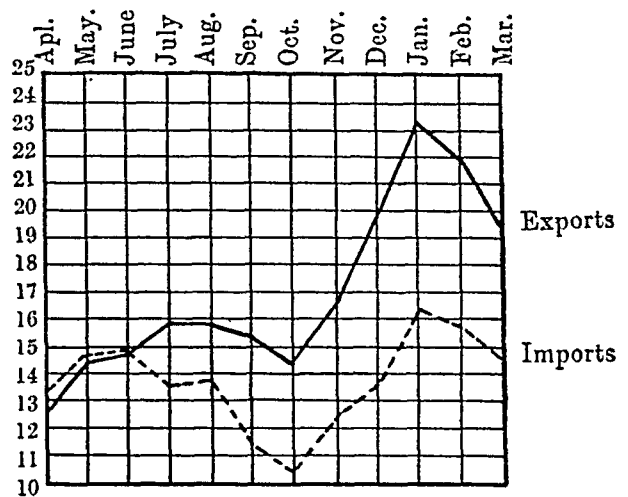


N. B.—1. Graphs above the 0 Line represent profit whereas those below represent loss.  
 2. The figures upto 1936-37 include those for Burma and Aden.  
 3. The figures of the Radio branch were merged in those of the Telegraph branch upto the year 1928-29.

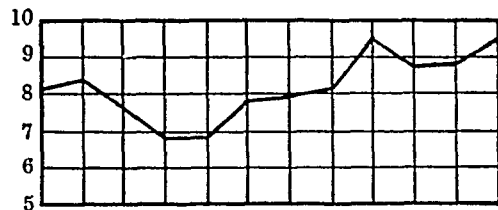


Comparison of value of imports and exports by sea, gross traffic earnings of State-owned Railways, Sale proceeds of postage stamps, Number of telegrams, and Telephone call fees during each month of 1939-40.

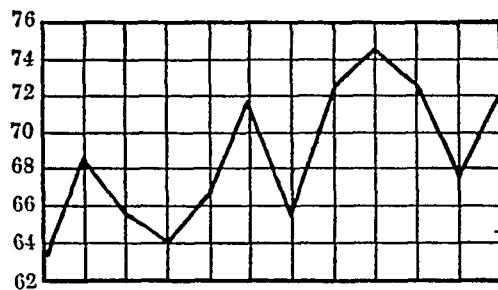
Foreign Trade by sea—  
Imports and Exports  
(in crores of rupees)



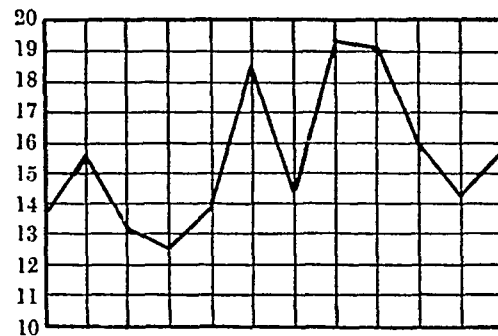
Gross Traffic Earnings of  
State-owned Railways  
(in crores of rupees)



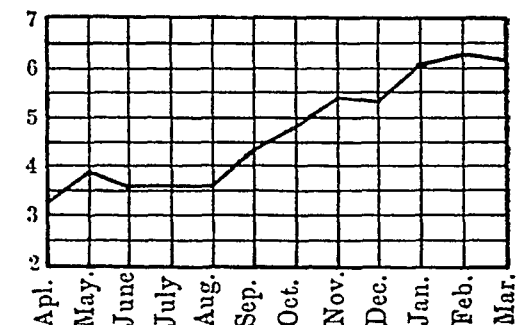
Sale proceeds of postage  
stamps  
(in lakhs of rupees)



Number of Telegrams  
(inland and foreign)  
(in hundreds of thousands)



Telephone call fees  
(in lakhs of rupees)





Name of the Company.	Name of the Service.		Number of flights.		Weight of mails carried.	
			1938-39.	1939-40.	1938-39.	1939-40.
					Lbs.	Lbs.
Messrs. Tata Sons Limited.	Karachi—	Southbound	251	222	222,365	110,148
	Madras—	Northbound	244	236	160,778	92,231
	Colombo.					
	Bombay—	Southbound	24	24	27	15
	Trivandrum—	Northbound	24	23	31	11
	Trichinopoly.					
	Bombay—	Southbound	52	52	22	12
	Delhi.	Northbound	53	51	32	18
The Indian National Airways.	Karachi—	Northbound	231	184	75,928	38,263
	Lahore.	Southbound	240	202	54,557	30,589
The Royal Dutch Air Company.	Jask—Kara-	Eastbound	157	127	13,169	8,032
	chi—Calcutta—Medan.	Westbound	157	128	2,064	2,264
Air France	Bushire—	Eastbound	52	53	3,949	2,824
	Karachi—	Westbound	52	53	963	1,174
	Calcutta—					
	Hanoi.					
Messrs. Air Services of India, Ltd.	Bombay—	Southbound	113	201	468	787
	Kathiawar.	Northbound	113	201	417	713
Deutsche Luft-hansa (D. L. H.).	Berlin—	Eastbound	..	3	..	387
	Karachi—	Westbound	..	1	..	2
	Bangkok.					

There were unfortunately three serious accidents to planes of the Air Mail Carriers during the year under report :—

(i) The Imperial Airways Westbound flying-boat "Centurion" with mails for India and beyond from the East, nose-dived into the river "Hoogly" on the 12th June 1939. The plane sank with all the mails on board. All the passengers and the crew were rescued and a major portion of the mails was salvaged. These were dried, repaired, reclosed, and delivered to the addressees.

(ii) Two Southbound I. N. A. planes that left Lahore on 26th August 1939 and 12th September 1939 crashed at a short distance from Lahore resulting in the death of three pilots. No loss of mails was involved.

(iii) The Imperial Airways westbound land-plane "Hannibal" left Karachi on 1st March 1940 and disappeared beyond Jiwani.

The plane with the pilot, four passengers and mails weighing about 1,700 lbs. is presumed to have sunk off Jask.

Early in the year an air mail service to countries in Central America was introduced but has since been discontinued. In September 1939, the Empire Air Mail Scheme under which all first class mails to certain countries were being despatched from India by air without surcharge was, as already stated, suspended due to the outbreak of War. The frequency of the air services was reduced and only surcharged articles were forwarded by air. The services by certain routes have been abandoned since the close of the year under report.

### Postage stamps.

The aggregate value of postage stamps and stationery issued was :—

	Rs.
Ordinary postage stamps, approximately . . .	7,22,75,000
Service postage stamps, approximately . . .	1,13,19,000

This represents an increase of 32·93 and 8·33 lakhs of rupees in the value of ordinary and service postage stamps, respectively, as compared with 1938-39.

The issue of postal stationery was :—

	Issue in millions. (Number)
Embossed envelopes . . . . .	119·7
Stamped postcards . . . . .	228·8

as compared with 106 and 227 millions, respectively, during 1938-39.

There was a decrease during the year in the number of one anna stamps booklets issued from 1,149 thousands to 1,049 thousands.

In addition to postage stamps, non-judicial and court-fee stamps continued to be sold in a number of post offices.

From the 1st June 1939 service postage stamps of all denominations of the anna series were issued with a distinctive design but in the same colours as the corresponding denominations of the ordinary stamps. Previously, the practice was to overprint the ordinary postage stamps with the word "service" in bold letters across the stamps.

## Post Offices and Letter Boxes.

The following table shows the position on the 31st March 1940 compared with that on the 31st March 1939 :—

	On 31st March 1939.	On 31st March 1940.
Post Offices (Urban areas) . . .	4,503*	4,513
Post Offices (Rural areas) . . .	19,802*	20,228
<b>Total</b> .	<b>24,305*</b>	<b>24,741</b>
Letter-boxes (Urban areas) . . .	17,320	17,625
Letter-boxes (Rural areas) . . .	35,531*	36,950
<b>Total</b> .	<b>52,851*</b>	<b>54,575</b>

Detailed statistics relating to the number of post offices and letter boxes will be found in Appendices IV to VII.

**Experimental Post Offices.**—Some expansion of postal facilities, particularly in rural areas, was carried out. On the 31st March 1939 there were 1,116 post offices on an experimental basis, of which all but 40 were in rural areas. 419 new post offices (35 urban and 384 rural) were opened experimentally. Of these 1,535 experimental post offices, 492 (20 urban and 472 rural) were made permanent, 79 (5 urban and 74 rural) were closed and 964 of which 50 were in urban and 914 in rural areas were retained on an experimental basis. The net addition to the number of post offices open was 282.

**Extra-departmental post offices.**—The number of post offices in charge of extra-departmental agents (school-masters, landholders, shopkeepers and others, undertaking part-time postal work) was 19,462 (including 924 sub-offices) on the 31st March 1940 as against 19,293 (including 973 sub-offices) a year before.

## Dead Letter Offices.

6,014,000 postal articles reached the Dead Letter Offices, as compared with 5,733,000 in the preceding year. 47 per cent. were re-issued for delivery to addressees and 44 per cent. to senders while 9 per cent. were deposited as undeliverable. The articles finally deposited as "dead" numbered 648,000 or approximately 5 in

\*Revised figures.



every 10,000 articles received for delivery, against 6 in every 10,000 in the previous year. On an average 106 articles were posted every day with no address whatsoever in the post offices served by the Dead Letter Offices of Calcutta, Bombay and Madras. In the articles opened in the Dead Letter Offices were cheques, currency notes, coins and other property to the aggregate nominal value of over 8 lakhs of rupees. A large proportion was subsequently delivered to the addressees or senders. Statistics of the work of Dead Letter Offices are in Appendix X.

### Complaints by the Public.

The complaints received from the public numbered 98,491 as against 97,972 in the previous year. This small increase is accounted for by the large number of complaints received in the Bombay General Post Office due to the imposition of Censorship, the irregular receipt of foreign mails, the loss of two air planes and the sinking of a ship. 97 per cent. of the complaints were finally disposed of during the year.

### Foreign Post.

**Foreign parcels.**—321,000 parcels were despatched from India through the foreign post against 397,000 while 307,000 foreign parcels were received against 418,000 in 1938-39. The parcels sent to and received from the United Kingdom fell from 110,000 and 260,000 respectively in the previous year to 67,000 and 187,000 owing to war conditions.

18,000 foreign parcels passed through India in transit during 1939-40 against 17,000 in the preceding year.

### Insurance.

The number of insured letters and parcels posted was 2,582,000 (including those posted as V. P. articles) with an aggregate declared value of over 77 crores of rupees. These figures show a decrease of 1.72 per cent. in number, but an increase of 5.2 per cent. in value as compared with 1938-39. The insurance fees realised amounted to 11½ lakhs of rupees as against about 11 lakhs in 1938-39.

### Money Orders, Postal Orders and Value payable business.

**Money Orders (General).**—The number of money orders, inland and foreign, issued, was about 41½ millions, the aggregate value

being nearly 76 crores of rupees as compared with about  $40\frac{1}{2}$  millions of the value of 74 crores of rupees in the preceding year. The commission realised was over 106 $\frac{1}{4}$  lakhs of rupees against 104 lakhs of rupees in 1938-39. Detailed statistics relating to various classes of inland and foreign money orders are in Appendix XI.

**Inland Money Orders.**—Over  $41\frac{1}{4}$  millions of inland money orders, ordinary and telegraphic, of a total value of nearly 75 crores of rupees were issued. This is an increase of 3·13 per cent. in the number and of 2·19 per cent. in the value over 1938-39. The commission realised was over 105 lakhs of rupees.

**Telegraphic Money Orders.**—The total number of telegraphic money orders issued (inland and foreign), was 596,000 as compared with 608,000 in 1938-39 but their value was about 3·83 crores of rupees, about the same as in the preceding year.

**Foreign money orders.**—Of the sterling money orders exchanged with Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Eire (Ireland), the British Dominions and foreign countries generally, the number sent and received was 185,608 valued at £9,77,078 compared with 1,95,335 valued at £961,504 in the preceding year. The amount received during the year for payment exceeded that advised from this country by £644,450.

The largest amount, *viz.* £279,534 was again received from the Kenya, Uganda and Tanganyika Territories. Next in order came Great Britain including Northern Ireland and the Union of South Africa, the amounts received being £227,047 and £174,677 respectively.

Foreign rupee money orders were exchanged with Burma, Ceylon, Malaya, the Portuguese Settlements in India, Aden and certain other countries. The number of such money orders was 2,045,000 and their value about 604 lakhs of rupees against 1,972,700 money orders of the value of over 562 lakhs of rupees in 1938-39. As usual, the money orders received for payment in India were much more in number and value than the outward orders and the balance in favour of India was about 566 lakhs of rupees. The largest amount received, *viz.* 348·21 lakhs of rupees was from Burma. Next came Malaya (Straits Settlements and the Federated Malaya States) with Rs. 121·70 lakhs and Ceylon with Rs. 69·31 lakhs.

**Indian Postal Orders.**—846,400 Indian Postal orders of the value of Rs. 29,55,800 were sold, and a commission of Rs. 52,901 was realised on their sale. The corresponding figures for the preceding year were 835,000 orders sold of the value of Rs. 23,23,000 and Rs. 52,175 commission.

## British Postal Orders.

	Sold in India.		Paid in India.		Commis- sion etc. realised.
	Number.	Value.	Number.	Value.	
		£		£	Rs.
1939-40 . . . . .	185,000	119,100	157,400	95,900	22,600
Increase (+) or decrease (—) over the figures for 1938-39.	—115,400	—74,200	—58,900	—30,300	—25,100

Of the various denominations of postal orders ranging from 6d. to 21 shillings, those for 5, 10 and 20 shillings formed about 63 per cent. of the total number sold, the last named denomination alone representing about 40 per cent. Of the total number of British Postal orders paid, 2,731 orders worth £1,604 were sold in India.

**Value-payable business (general).**—The number of V. P. articles of all kinds sent through the post was 7,137,000 against 7,471,000 in 1938-39. The total amount specified for recovery from addressees was 14·87 crores of rupees against Rs. 15·78 crores in the preceding year. The average value of a V. P. article amounted to about Rs. 21.

**Value-payable business (Foreign).**—The number of foreign value-payable articles and Cash-on-delivery parcels both inward and outward, was about 188,000 and the amount of the declared value was over 42 lakhs of rupees. Full details with comparative figures are in Appendix IX.

### Miscellaneous Activities.

**Savings Bank.**—The number of active accounts at the end of the year was 45,83,000 representing an increase of 8·06 per cent. over the previous year. The total balance at credit of depositors at the end of the year was nearly 78½ crores, representing a decrease of 4·34 per cent. and the average balance at the credit of a single depositor was Rs. 170·89 compared with Rs. 193·03 in 1938-39. Appendix XII gives further statistical information in respect of Savings Bank transactions and the graphs at the end of the Report illustrate the volume of Savings Bank business.

Immediately after the outbreak of War in September 1939 there was for a time, a sharp increase in withdrawals and a decrease in deposits, but soon after October, normal conditions began to prevail.

**Post Office Cash Certificates.**—The amount invested was Rs. 10,38 lakhs and the amount paid out was 14,54 lakhs as against 14,80

lakhs and 18,69 lakhs respectively in 1938-39. Cash Certificates of the denomination of Rs. 20 were abolished from the 1st November 1939. Appendix XIII gives further statistical details.

**Government Securities.**—The volume of investment in Government Securities made through the Post Office was :—

	Government Securities (nominal value).		
	Purchased by investors.	Sold by investors.	Held in custody of the Accountant-General, Posts and Telegraphs on behalf of depositors at the end of the year.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1939-40 . . . . .	1,16,51,700	53,81,600	10,13,53,000
Increase (+) decrease (—) compared with 1938-39 . . . . .	—1,11,52,500	+5,72,600	—63,60,000
Percentage of increase (+) or decrease (—) over 1938-39 . . . . .	—48.91	+11.91	—5.90

During the year investment certificates of a nominal value of Rs. 21,651 were discharged.

The large decrease in the value of securities purchased by investors through the agency of the Post Office appears to have been due mainly to the withdrawal from 1st April 1939 of the concession under which no income tax was levied on interest accrued on such securities kept in the custody of the Accountant-General, Posts and Telegraphs, but partly also to diversion of capital to more paying forms of investment consequent on the outbreak of War in Europe.

**Post Office Life Insurance Fund.**—During the year, 6,353 Life and Endowment Assurance Policies of the aggregate value of Rs. 1,22,79,000 were issued as compared with 4,972 Policies of the value of Rs. 96,49,000 in the previous year.

The sum realised on account of premia including fines and medical fees on all current policies amounted to Rs. 82,70,000 as compared with Rs. 80,99,000 in 1938-39. The amount of claims and other charges met from the fund on account of Life Insurance and Endowment Assurance was Rs. 68,53,000 as against Rs. 55,44,000 in the previous year. 993 policies for a gross sum of Rs. 14,76,000 either lapsed, were surrendered or cancelled as against 799 policies for a gross sum of Rs. 11,31,000 in the previous year. Appendices XV, XVI and XVII give detailed statistics relating to the various classes of transactions of this fund.

**Payment of Indian Military Pensions.**—The number of Post Offices at which Indian Military Pensions were paid was 1,275 as against 1,272\* in the previous year. The volume of work performed is shown below :—

Circle.	Year.	Number of pensioners.	Amount disbursed.	Commission realised.
			Rs.	Rs.
Punjab and N.-W. F. .	{ 1938-39 .	141,157	1,70,94,000	2,77,780
	{ 1939-40 .	143,056	1,71,83,000	2,79,230
Sind and Baluchistan .	{ 1938-39 .	520	62,000	1,010
	{ 1939-40 .	538	68,500	1,110

The number of military pensioners receiving their pensions by money order through Civil Treasuries was 6,670 ; of these 1,058 were residents of the North West Frontier Province and the rest, of the Punjab.

**Sale of Quinine.**—Quinine was sold through the agency of the Post Office in all Circles except the Punjab and N. W. F. Province where the arrangement has been discontinued. During the year 17,064 lbs. of the drug worth Rs. 3,50,219 were sold as against 16,158 lbs. worth Rs. 3,32,635 in 1938-39.

### Offences.

**Mail robberies.**—The number of highway robberies of mail was 26 against 20 in the previous year. Of the 26 cases of mail robberies, 10 occurred in the N. W. F. Province and 8 in the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh. Twenty officials of the Department were assaulted, and one of them, a runner, was killed. The mails were recovered wholly in 7 cases and partly in 7 other cases. In connection with these robberies, 24 persons were prosecuted of whom 5 were convicted before the end of the year. The total loss sustained by the Department through these robberies amounted to over Rs. 11,000 as compared with Rs. 17,000 in 1938-39. There were also 4 cases of attempted highway robbery, in two of which a runner and a village postman were assaulted.

**Other criminal offences.**—294 Posts and Telegraphs officials (including extra-departmental employees) were implicated in criminal offences. Of these, 114 were convicted by the courts, 82 were dealt with departmentally, 3 died and 95 were still under trial at the

\*Revised figure.

close of the year. The loss originally involved in these cases was Rs. 1,38,500 ; of this, a sum of Rs. 68,800 was recovered, Rs. 200 written off as finally lost and Rs. 69,500 had remained unadjusted at the close of the year.

Of the offences against the Post Office committed by persons not belonging to the Department, 55 were cases of money order frauds, 12 of savings bank or cash certificate frauds, 81 of thefts from mails and post offices and 20 miscellaneous. The number of cases in which the offenders were convicted by criminal courts was 33.

The total loss involved was Rs. 25,100, of which a sum of Rs. 10,000 was recovered, Rs. 100 written off as finally lost and Rs. 15,000 remained unadjusted at the close of the year. A comparative statement showing the number of crimes and the amounts involved therein is in Appendix XIV.

## Complaints by the public.

The number of telegraph complaints received from the public was 15,484 as against 13,572 in 1938-39, an increase of 14.1 per cent. These figures include complaints relating to Foreign telegrams which were 2,314 in 1939-40 against 2,065 in 1938-39.

The increase in the number of complaints is due to the large increase in telegraph traffic, especially foreign traffic, on the outbreak of War and to the complications caused by the censorship regulations.

## Telegraph Traffic.

**General.**—The following table shows the number of telegrams (excluding service telegrams) handled, the number of operations entailed in their despatch from the office of origin to destination with the necessary repetitions at intermediate offices, and the average number of operations per telegram during the year :—

No. of telegrams handled.		No. of operations.		Average No. of operations per telegram.	
Press.	Non-press.	Press.	Non-press.	Press.	Non-press.
502,575	18,119,564	849,460	87,040,062	1.69	4.80

**Inland telegrams.**—The number of inland telegrams handled was about 15,673,000 of the value of Rs. 1,65,02,000, details of which are in Appendix XIX. The percentages of telegrams of different classes and their value and the variations as compared with the previous year are shown below :—

Class of telegrams.	Percentage to total traffic.		Percentage increase (+) or decrease (—) over last year.	
	Number.	Value.	Number.	Value.
State . . . . .	6.55	11.26	+7.14	+19.14
Raj (Indian State) . . . . .	0.47	0.85	+26.35	+27.85
Private . . . . .	90.16	84.91	+16.37	+19.75
Press . . . . .	2.82	2.98	+0.19	—16.02
Total . . . . .	..	..	+15.24	+18.25

The fall in revenue from press telegrams in spite of an increase in their number was due to a large number of telegrams of shorter length.

**Foreign telegrams.**—About 2,939,000 foreign telegrams containing more than 38 million words were transmitted. The number and value of the different classes of telegrams are given in Appendix XIX. The percentages of telegrams of different classes and the Indian share of their value and the variations as compared with the previous year are shown below :—

Classes of telegrams.	Percentage to total traffic.		Percentage increase (+) or decrease (—) in the	
	Number.	Indian Share.	Number.	Indian Share.
State . . . . .	1·66	3·09	+104·60	+191·22
Private—				
Ordinary . . . . .	49·43	49·37	+20·67	+84·37
Urgent . . . . .	0·12	0·52	+75·88	+162·71
Deferred . . . . .	23·78	22·82	+98·03	+209·55
Letter . . . . .	7·09	8·38	+102·55	+179·35
Code . . . . .	15·84	13·47	—54·74	—47·05
Press . . . . .	2·08	2·35	+3·37	+17·12
Total . . . . .	..	..	+5·96	+51·85

The large increase in 1939-40 was due to war conditions. Code telegrams fell due to their complete prohibition for some time after the declaration of War.

**Foreign telegraphic Money Orders.**—The number of telegraphic money orders exchanged between India on one side, and Ceylon, Iraq, places in the Persian Gulf, Aden, Perim, the Straits Settlements, the Seychelles, Mauritius, Kedah, Zanzibar, Tanganyika Territory, Federated Malay States, Nyasaland, the Colony and Protectorate of Kenya, the Uganda Protectorate, and Burma, on the other, was 198,133. The corresponding figure for the previous year was 150,800.

Between India on the one hand and Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Eire (Ireland) on the other, the number of telegraphic money orders exchanged was 5,633 as against 2,500 in the previous year.



## Greetings Telegrams.

The number of Greetings telegrams dealt with in 1939-40 was 189,910 as against 183,615\* in the previous year. The number of foreign Christmas and New Year greetings telegrams was 3,006 containing 40,680 words, as compared with 25,510 consisting of 315,895 words in 1938-39. This decrease is due to the fact that with the introduction of the Empire Social Telegrams service (GLT) the XLT (Christmas Greetings Telegram) service to Empire countries which was available for a short period only in a year was replaced by the GLT service which is available throughout the year.

**Phonograms.**—The phonogram system continued to be popular and the number of telegrams booked and delivered under this system was 504,709 and 487,479 respectively as against 382,344 and 390,292 respectively in the year 1938-39. There is scope for much greater utilization of this facility by the public ; for, outside the cities of Bombay, Calcutta and Karachi, the system is little used.

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\* Revised figure.

## CHAPTER V.

### TELEPHONES.

#### Inland Telephone Systems.

At the end of the year there were 282 Departmental Telephone Exchanges with 26,729 straight line connections and 4,089 extension telephones as compared with 274 exchanges with 24,113 straight line connections and 3,571 extension telephones at the end of the preceding year. There were in addition, 320 exchanges owned and maintained by the Department for the exclusive use of other Government Departments, Municipalities, business firms, etc., with 3,683 telephones, as against 304 exchanges with 3,407 telephones on the 31st March 1939. Besides these, there were 355 independent non-exchange systems with 671 telephones rented to the public and 54 non-exchange systems with 201 telephones rented to Railway and Canal Administrations. The revenue earned during the year was Rs. 56,16,000 from rents and Rs. 57,92,000 from telephone call fees (including recoveries from guarantors) as compared with Rs. 50,33,000 and Rs. 43,15,000, respectively, in the previous year. Licensed telephone companies operate in some of the large towns and own 24 exchanges and 1,414 sub-exchanges with 54,935 telephones (excluding 2,488 non-exchange telephones). The revenue earned by the companies' systems was Rs. 1,11,43,000 against Rs. 1,00,20,000 in the previous year, yielding a royalty to Government of Rs. 5,13,000 against Rs. 4,85,000 in 1938-39.

#### Overseas Telephones.

Although India is in telephonic communication by means of Radio channels with Burma and the United Kingdom and through the latter with most countries of the world, the services have been temporarily suspended in view of the present war situation. For the same reason, the telephone service between India and Ceylon *via* the cable between Rameswaram and Talaimannar is not in use at present.

#### Efficiency of Local and Trunk Telephone Services.

Efforts are constantly being made to improve the efficiency of local and trunk telephone services. Observations are made periodically in the important telephone exchanges to ascertain the time taken to put through trunk calls. These observations indicate that on an average 59 per cent. of the total trunk traffic is disposed of within 10 minutes of the booking of calls. Considering the size of the country and the long distances separating important centres of business, which make the provision of more trunk telephone channels a very costly undertaking, the trunk service may be said to be satisfactory. Efforts continue to be made to improve the present position by the provision of additional channels when such are financially justified.

## CHAPTER VI.

### WIRELESS.

#### General.

The work of the Wireless Branch of the Department was carried on under two divisions with Headquarters in Bombay and Calcutta up to the 1st July 1939, when, in order to secure more efficient supervision than was possible for only two Divisional Engineers, Wireless, to exercise over wireless stations widely scattered throughout India, it was decided to abolish the two Wireless Divisions and to amalgamate the cadres in the Superior Service of Wireless and Telegraph Engineering Officers. As a result of this reorganisation, the Wireless stations have been transferred to the charge of the Divisional Engineers of the combined service according to their territorial jurisdictions. One of the two posts of Divisional Engineers, Wireless, so released, was utilised to create the post of an Assistant Chief Engineer, Wireless, in the Directorate for dealing with all wireless matters. All work in connection with Wireless training, experimental and testing work and examinations for the Director-General's certificate of competency as Wireless Operators is under the charge of an officer of the grade of Divisional Engineer under the administrative control of the Electrical Engineer-in-Chief at Calcutta. To facilitate co-ordination between this Department and the Department of Civil Aviation and for proper organisation of Aeronautical wireless services in India a new post of Aeronautical Wireless Superintendent was created in October 1939, with headquarters at Karachi.

#### Construction.

One fully equipped new Wireless station was constructed and medium and short wave transmitters and receivers and direction finding apparatuses were erected at a number of other stations.

#### Traffic and Licenses.

**Stations in operation.**—There are 26 wireless stations in India of which 12 are for Aeronautical Wireless Services and include Direction Finding equipment. Wireless meteorological service is dealt with by one short-wave station, while communication with ships is worked by 5 Coastal wireless stations. Eight other stations are maintained for inland communications and other miscellaneous wireless services.

**Volume of traffic.**—The number of messages handled during the year by Departmental stations in India was over 7 lakhs. This shows an increase of over 70,000 made up as follows :—

—	1938-39.	1939-40.	+ Increase. — Decrease.
(a) Aeronautical . . . . .	279,000	274,974	—4,026
(b) Between Madras and Rangoon .	323,000	406,345	+83,345
(c) Shipping and other Miscellaneous services.	112,600	104,437	—8,163
	714,600	785,756	+71,156

**Certificates and Licenses.**—The number of Broadcast Receiver Licenses issued was about 97,000 as compared with 72,000 in 1938-39 and 54,000 in 1937-38. The number of wireless licenses of all types, other than Broadcast Receiver Licenses, issued was nearly 7,000 as compared with 6,805 in 1938-39 and 3,000 in 1937-38.

The number of candidates examined for certificates of Competency as Wireless Operator was 406. Of this number 45 passed in the Second Class and 21 in the Special Class, the remainder being unsuccessful.

## CHAPTER VII.

## TELEGRAPH STORES AND WORKSHOPS.

Owing to the outbreak of War, the Posts and Telegraphs Department had difficulty in obtaining stores, particularly from abroad. There was also delay and difficulty in obtaining raw materials. The question of using indigenous products more extensively, was explored with the co-operation of the Indian Stores Department and the supplying firms, and some success has already been achieved. To meet its own requirements and other urgent demands from the Military authorities as promptly as possible, the Department has taken steps to raise initially the authorised general stock balance of stores from Rs. 21 lakhs to Rs. 34 lakhs.

The manufacturing activities of the Department have considerably increased on account of the War and the Telegraph Workshops have also assisted in the manufacture of articles for munitions.

Before the War started considerable progress had been made towards the assembly of telephone instruments in the departmental Workshops and it was hoped to make many component parts, particularly bakelite bodies, but owing to the necessary equipment and machinery being unobtainable, progress has been delayed.

## Stores.

The stores transactions during the years 1938-39 and 1939-40 were as follows :—

	1938-39. Rs.	1939-40. Rs.
I.—Stores suspense—General and Workshop stores—		
Opening balance . . . . .	49,48,000	51,51,000
Receipts . . . . .	63,98,000	61,77,400
Issues . . . . .	61,95,000	63,89,200
Closing balance . . . . .	51,51,000	49,39,200
II.—Workshop Manufacture suspense—		
Works in progress . . . . .	2,38,000	1,98,800

The closing balance of Rs. 49,39,200 includes stores maintained for possible military requirements, valued at Rs. 20,67,200, interest on which is excluded from the departmental accounts.

During the year, obsolete and unserviceable stores of the book value of Rs. 57,900 were written off.

The department continued to pursue the policy of manufacturing in its own workshops as much of its requirements as possible having regard to efficiency and economy in production.

The total value of stores purchased in India was Rs. 34,78,500 as against Rs. 36,83,980 during 1938-39. No purchase was made during the year from firms not established in India.

### Telegraph Workshops.

The value of works completed in the telegraph Workshops, compared with the previous year's outturn is as follows :—

	1938-39.	1939-40.	Increase (+) or Decrease (—).
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Construction stores . . .	11,74,000	11,20,000	(—) 54,000
Instruments (new) . . .	4,12,000	4,61,000	(+) 49,000
Instruments (repaired) . . .	1,78,000	1,61,000	(—) 17,000
Other works . . . . .	2,24,000	2,26,000	(+) 2,000
Total . . . . .	19,88,000	19,68,000	(—) 20,000

## CHAPTER VIII.

## STAFF.

## Strength.

On the 31st March 1940 the number of persons employed by the department was 118,020 as compared with 117,151 at the close of 1938-39. The figure includes 21,869 extra-departmental agents who are not whole-time servants of Government and 2,898 members of the Audit and Accounts staff. Of the remaining 93,253, 438 belonged to the superior (gazetted) staff, including 137 divisional and other superintendents, 44 postmasters and 58 telegraph traffic officers, most of whom are in executive charge of the larger post and telegraph offices or of postal and railway mail service divisions, and 104 assistants and deputy assistant engineers, most of whom are in executive charge of engineering sub-divisions or in comparable posts. The remaining 95 officers are holding higher charges such as are commonly regarded by the general public as controlling the business of the department.

## Communal Composition of Staff.

Information regarding the distribution according to different communities of the staff of the Department on 1st January 1940 and of the staff recruited during the calendar year 1939 is given in detail in Appendix XXII to this Report. In the percentage strength of the minority communities, the composition of the Department (permanent staff) does not fully reflect as yet the recruitment policy of Government, but progress in this direction continues.

## Casualties.

The following statement shows the casualties from retirement, resignation or death during the year :—

—	Gazetted.				Non-gazetted.			
	Retire- ment.	Resigna- tion.	Death.	Total.	Retire- ment.	Resigna- tion.	Death.	Total.
Postal and R. M. S.	14	..	4	18	1,021	113	720	1,854
Telegraph Traffic.	11	..	1	12	40	3	22	74
Telegraph Engineering (including Wireless).	7	..	..	7	59	25	57	141
Director-Gen- eral's Office.	1	..	..	1	9	..	2	11
Total	33	..	5	38	1,138	141	801	2,080

There were two fatal accidents to employees. A mail runner attached to the Howrah Head Office and a village postman of Sanjan (District Thana, Bombay Presidency) were run over by railway trains while on duty.

### **Compassionate Gratuities.**

The Department makes grants to the dependants of employees on comparatively small salaries, who die in active service and leave their dependants in indigent circumstances. The object is to enable the dependants to tide over the immediate financial difficulties following the death of the wage earner. During the year a total sum of Rs. 53,402 was granted in 264 cases.

**Compensation under the Workmen's Compensation Act, and Extraordinary family pensions.**—Certain classes of employees of the Department are covered by the Workmen's Compensation Act in respect of death or injuries received while performing their duties. During 1939-40, a total sum of Rs. 4,283-7-0 was paid as compensation in 18 cases.

Extraordinary family pensions were also granted in 21 cases amounting in all to Rs. 219-5-0 per month to the dependants of employees who lost their lives in the discharge of their duties.

### **Unions and Associations.**

On the 31st March 1940 the number of All-India organisations of employees recognised by Government was 11. The number of whole-time permanent employees in the Department is about 93,000 and the number of part-time employees who are eligible for membership of the recognised Unions and Associations is 21,900. The membership reported by the various Unions or Associations is 38,435 ; but this figure has neither been verified by the Department, nor in all cases by Certified Auditors. Some employees belong to more than one Union.

### **Co-operative Credit Societies.**

At the end of the year there were 58 Co-operative Credit Societies working for the benefit of the staff with a membership of 68,421 as compared with 66,043 in the previous year. The subscribed capital was 29,57,000 and deposits by members totalled Rs. 24,16,000. Loans amounting to about Rs. 77,46,000 were advanced to 26,138 members as compared with Rs. 79,90,000 advanced to 27,298 members during the previous year.



## Rewards.

For acts of exceptional zeal and devotion to duty, rewards amounting to Rs. 881 were paid to 87 officials. The Police Department granted rewards or certificates of commendation to six officials of the Department for valuable help rendered in criminal cases while the services of eight others were similarly recognised by the Excise Department and by certain high officers of Government. Postmasters-General paid rewards amounting to Rs. 315 to 4 police officials for notable assistance given in departmental investigations. A new feature during the year was the introduction of prizes and commendation certificates awarded to Postmasters who were successful in the "cleaner office" competitions.

## Honours.

The following officers received the honours indicated against their names :—

- |   |              |
|---|--------------|
| 1. Mr. A. J. S. Gabriel, Superintendent, Central Telegraph Office, New Delhi (Retired)                          | M.B.E.       |
| 2. Rai Sahib J. N. Dar, Deputy Postmaster-General (Retired)   | Rai Bahadur. |
| 3. Mr. Faizur-Rahman, B.A., Officiating Deputy Postmaster-General, Bengal and Assam Circle, Calcutta            | Khan Sahib.  |
| 4. Pundit Radhey Lal Kaul, Superintendent, Office of the Postmaster-General, Punjab and N.-W. F. Circle, Lahore | Rai Sahib.   |
| 5. Mr. Sarat Chandra Mukherji, Superintendent, Office of the Director-General, Posts and Telegraphs             | Rai Sahib.   |

The title of *Rai Sahib* was also conferred on Pundit Prithvi Nath Bhargava, B.Com., of Lucknow, who is carrying out a number of mail motor contracts for this department in different parts of India.

In addition to the above, Maulvi Abdul Ghany, Sub-Inspector, Telegraphs (Retired), Chittagong and Mr. Wandiwash Chinniah Nayudu, Line-Inspector, Telegraphs (Retired), Madura Engineering Sub-Division, were awarded the Imperial Service Medals. And I was myself honoured with a Knighthood.

## CHAPTER IX.

### MISCELLANEOUS.

#### Charge.

The administration of the Department was in my charge throughout the year.

#### Buildings.

The construction of a new Post and Telegraph building at Cochin was commenced during the year and the reconstruction of some of the P. & T. buildings at Quetta was in progress at the end of the year.

The following buildings were completed during the year :—

(1) New building at Ramna (Dacca) for accommodating the Dacca Telegraph Office and Ramna Sub-Office with quarters for staff.

(2) Quarters for Wireless Operators at Allahabad and Gaya.

(3) Extensions to the Karachi General Post Office building.

A site for the Ahmedabad Railwaypura Post Office building was also purchased during the year.

Additions and alterations to a large number of existing buildings as well as the construction of new buildings for a number of the smaller post offices, etc., were also carried out.

#### Publicity.

The publicity activities of the Department were continued as in previous years.

The Department opened an attractive stall in the All-India Industrial Exhibition held at Karachi in April and May 1939.

#### Communal or other Disturbances.

During the year, communal riots broke out at Sukkur in the Province of Sind, at Sholapur in the Bombay Presidency, at Cawnpore, Meerut, Allahabad and some other towns in the United Provinces, at Ramdurg, capital of a small State in the Bombay Presidency and at Sidhpur, a town in the Baroda State. There was also some trouble in the city of Bombay at the time of the introduction of prohibition. During the period of riots, dislocation of postal and telegraph work became inevitable as it was dangerous for the staff to move about in the disturbed areas. Some of the post offices in the danger zones were temporarily closed. In some cases, the clearance of letter boxes and the delivery of post had to be restricted and the payment of money orders and the delivery of valuable articles through postmen had to be suspended for a few days.

Special arrangements were made for the safe conveyance of the staff between their homes and offices, where necessary, and every effort was made to reduce inconvenience to the public to a minimum.

### Conclusion.

This and the preceding chapters will have indicated to some extent the variety of services rendered by the Department, the vastness of its transactions, the difficulties encountered and the degree of efficiency and financial success achieved in rendering those services to the public during the year. As I have already pointed out in the first chapter, the Department had to face abnormal conditions resulting from the outbreak of hostilities in Europe. The normal peace time machinery of the Department had accordingly to be geared up suitably to meet the abnormal situation. This process of adjustment necessarily involved some initial friction, but I can say with confidence that the Department soon proved itself equal to the task which it had to face. The degree of success achieved would not have been possible without the active co-operation, loyalty and devotion to duty of the large band of workers of the Department in various capacities. I must here record my thanks to them and must also express my gratitude to the public which has always co-operated with the Department even when most inclined to criticise. Lastly, I must also record my thanks for the assistance and co-operation received from the different departments of the Central Government and from Provincial Governments, Railway Administrations and the Steamship and Air Companies.

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**APPENDICES.**

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## APPENDIX I.

Statement of Capital Outlay in the Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department during and to end of the year ended the 31st March 1940.

	Outlay during the year.					Outlay to end of the year.				
	Post Office.	Telegraphs.	Telephone.	Radio.	Total.	Post Office.	Telegraphs.	Telephone.	Radio.	Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
<i>Fixed Assets.</i>	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Lands and Buildings	(—) 9,280	1,29,228	51,179	63,944	2,35,071	2,69,91,887	1,51,48,811	13,35,079	17,02,750	4,51,78,518
Railway Mail Vans owned by Post Office	..	..	..	..	..	9,22,195	..	..	..	9,22,195
Telegraph and Telephone Lines and Radio Masts and Aerials	..	12,10,854	7,31,275	4,839	19,46,968	..	9,18,92,739	1,57,64,771	2,85,102	10,79,42,612
Apparatus and Plant	..	77,971	5,57,202	89,652	7,24,825	..	48,81,616	1,30,41,485	16,39,146	1,95,62,247
Total Fixed Assets	(—) 9,280	14,18,053	13,39,656	1,58,435	29,06,864	2,79,14,082	11,19,23,166	3,01,41,326	36,26,998	17,36,05,572
Deduct—Receipt on Capital Account.	..	..	..	..	..	11,24,712	5,38,028	..	..	16,62,740
Total	(—) 9,280	14,18,053	13,39,656	1,58,435	29,06,864	2,67,89,370	11,13,85,138	3,01,41,326	36,26,998	17,19,42,832
Stores and Manufacture Suspense.	..	(—) 2,50,714	..	..	—2,50,714	..	51,38,021	..	..	51,38,021
Total Interest-Bearing Capital Outlay.	(—) 9,280	11,67,339	13,39,656	1,58,435	26,56,150	2,67,89,370	11,65,23,159	3,01,41,326	36,26,998	17,70,80,853

## APPENDIX II.

Profit and Loss Accounts of the Posts and Telegraphs Department  
for the year 1939-40.

—	Total.	Postal.	Telegraphs.	Telephone.	Radio.
<i>Receipts.</i>	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
A.—Postage and Message Revenue . . .	9,34,04,298	7,11,47,688	2,20,22,419	..	2,34,191
B.—Miscellaneous Revenue . . .	3,14,48,059	1,20,33,821	63,18,250	1,21,40,659	9,55,329
<b>Total Receipts . . .</b>	<b>12,48,52,357</b>	<b>8,31,81,509</b>	<b>2,83,40,669</b>	<b>1,21,40,659</b>	<b>11,89,520</b>
<i>Expenditure.</i>					
C.—Central Administration . . .	25,66,040	6,58,394	9,12,928	8,32,049	1,62,669
D.—Accounts and Audit . . .	25,03,819	16,78,124	6,79,903	1,09,588	36,204
E.—Control Circle offices . . .	32,90,095	24,64,281	6,77,759	1,21,734	26,321
F.—Engineering expenses . . .	44,94,639	..	35,13,724	8,61,314	1,19,601
G.—Pensionary Charges . . .	1,17,68,073	86,47,883	24,88,736	5,14,712	1,16,742
H.—Stamps, Post Cards, Printing and Stationery . . .	32,95,271	28,38,184	3,52,251	85,371	19,465
I.—Maintenance of Assets . . .	28,58,599	5,38,466	12,78,706	9,50,889	90,538
J.—Postal Expenses . . .	7,03,88,349	7,03,88,349	..	..	..
K.—Telegraph Traffic . . .	91,58,120	..	91,58,120	..	..
L.—Radio Expenses . . .	6,37,474	..	..	..	6,37,474
M.—Telephone Expenses . . .	24,37,302	..	..	24,37,302	..
N.—Provision for Renewals . . .	23,05,000	2,30,500	13,83,000	5,76,250	1,15,250
S.—Repayment to General Revenue of losses on Press Traffic . . .	8,50,000	..	8,50,000	..	..
<b>Total . . .</b>	<b>11,65,52,781</b>	<b>8,74,44,181</b>	<b>2,12,95,127</b>	<b>64,89,209</b>	<b>13,24,264</b>
O.—Deduct—Credits to Working Expenses . . .	80,26,603	64,40,144	8,73,965	6,25,268	87,226
<b>Net Working Expenses . . .</b>	<b>10,85,26,178</b>	<b>8,10,04,037</b>	<b>2,04,21,162</b>	<b>58,63,941</b>	<b>12,37,038</b>
Add—Interest on Capital Outlay . . .	73,66,928	10,92,550	47,19,311	13,97,973	1,57,094
<b>Total . . .</b>	<b>11,58,93,106</b>	<b>8,20,96,587</b>	<b>2,51,40,473</b>	<b>72,61,914</b>	<b>13,94,132</b>
Inter-branch adjustments . . .	..	—42,82,689	+32,02,477	+13,32,831	—2,52,619
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>11,58,93,106</b>	<b>7,78,13,898</b>	<b>2,83,42,950</b>	<b>85,94,745</b>	<b>11,41,513</b>

Profit (+)  
or Loss (—) for

the year +89,59,251 +53,67,611 —2,281 +35,45,914 +48,007

## APPENDIX III.

## Monetary Transactions.

<i>Revenue Collections.</i>		<i>Expenditure.</i>	
	Rs.		Rs.
(a) Postage and Message revenue—net .	8,20,23,000	(a) Payments to staff .	8,18,29,000
(b) Telegraph charges realised in cash—net .	1,13,81,000	(b) Maintenance of and Repairs to assets .	28,59,000
(c) Telephone revenue .	1,19,00,000	(c) Conveyance of mails .	97,92,000
(d) Receipts on account of Money Orders, British Postal Orders and Indian Postal Orders .	1,07,51,000	(d) Pensionary charges .	1,17,68,000
(e) Miscellaneous receipts .	87,97,000	(e) General expenses .	87,73,000
Total .	12,48,52,000	Total .	11,50,21,000
		New works—Telegraphs, Telephones, etc. .	26,56,000
<i>Money Order and other Trust Transactions.</i>		<i>Money Order and other Trust Transactions.</i>	
Money orders issued—(including collections on account of V. P. P.)		Money Orders paid—(including collections on account of V. P. P.)	
Domestic .	74,91,58,000	Domestic .	74,82,58,000
International .	93,32,000	International .	7,48,78,000
British Postal Orders sold .	16,34,000	British Postal Orders paid .	12,73,000
Indian Postal Orders sold .	29,56,000	Indian Postal Orders paid .	29,30,000
Cash Certificates issued .	10,37,80,000	Cash Certificates discharged (b). .	14,54,36,000
Savings Bank Deposits (a). .	40,51,79,000	Savings Bank withdrawals (a). .	45,21,79,000
Premia realised on Life Insurance and Endowment Assurance policies .	82,66,000	Value of Life Insurance and Endowment Assurance policies paid .	64,54,000
Sale of quinine .	3,50,000	Military pensions paid .	1,72,52,000
Salt revenue collected .	1,89,000	Total .	144,86,60,000
Customs duty realised .	57,36,000		
Total .	128,65,80,000		

(a) Excludes transfer transactions of Savings Bank accounts from one post office to another.

(b) Inclusive of interest paid.

NOTE—Payments on account of contribution to the Renewals Reserve Fund, Interest on Capital outlay and credits for services rendered to other Departments have been excluded from this statement as these are book transactions and do not involve handling of cash.

DISTANCE OVER WHICH MAILS WERE CARRIED BY--

\* The number of rural postmen includes 3,605 extra departmental delivery agents working on 31st March 1939 and 3,647 working on 31st March 1940. Revised figures.



## APPENDIX V.

Number of post offices and letter-boxes (including the letter-boxes at post offices) in relation to area and populations and number of postal articles (excluding money orders) in relation to population.

Names of Circles.	Census of 1931.			One post office serves			One letter-box serves			Total number of postal articles (excluding money orders).	Number of postal articles per head of—	
	Area in square miles.	Population.	Literate population.	Square miles.	Population.	Literate population.	Square miles.	Population.	Literate population.		Population.	Literate Population.
Bengal and Assam	156,250	60,474,466	5,448,205	33	12,834	1,156	10	3,907	352	278,391,775	4.60	51.10
Bihar and Orissa	130,337	45,076,282	1,953,029	66	22,718	984	28	9,574	415	83,549,952	1.85	42.78
Bombay	142,789	28,599,788	2,893,105	42	8,338	843	10	2,073	210	228,411,042	7.99	78.95
Central	331,095	35,259,696	1,633,774	151	16,064	744	63	6,657	308	74,627,633	2.12	45.68
Madras	249,527	72,089,334	7,046,243	52	15,050	1,471	16	4,508	441	233,270,552	3.24	33.11
Punjab and North-West Frontier.	223,522	32,813,782	1,641,859	51	7,481	374	18	2,610	131	184,400,458	5.62	112.31
Sind and Baluchistan.	187,066	4,982,870	280,100	387	10,316	580	151	4,018	226	38,121,869	7.65	136.10
United Provinces.	122,272	50,903,848	2,352,685	44	18,443	852	12	5,024	232	134,701,261	2.65	57.25
Total	1,542,858	330,200,066	23,249,000	62	13,346	940	19	4,168	293	1,255,474,542	3.80	54.00

## APPENDIX VI.

Number of post offices and letter-boxes (excluding those at post offices) in urban and rural areas at the close of the years 1938-39 and 1939-40.

Names of Circles.	NUMBER ON THE 31ST MARCH 1939.				NUMBER ON THE 31ST MARCH 1940.					
	Post Offices.		Letter-boxes.		Post Offices.		Letter-boxes.			
	Urban.	Rural.	Total	Urban.	Rural.	Total.	Urban.	Rural.	Total.	
Bengal and Assam . .	521	4,007	4,618	2,631	8,107	10,788	524	4,185	4,712	10,819
Bihar and Orissa . .	267	1,097	1,364	951	908	1,850	309	1,716	1,985	2,723
Bombay . . . .	705	2,726	3,431	2,558	7,678	10,236	703	2,727	3,430	10,367
Central . . . .	609	1,578	2,187	1,796	1,217	3,013	600	1,586	2,195	3,102
Madras . . . .	906	3,093	4,599	3,321	7,498	10,819	910	3,880	4,790	11,201
Punjab and North-West Frontier.	662*	3,035*	4,297*	2,596	5,154*	8,050*	608	3,718	4,386	8,209
Sind and Baluchistan . .	92	398	490	466	252*	724*	93	391	483	758
United Provinces . .	741	1,978	2,719	2,711	4,651	7,362	738	2,022	2,760	7,390
Total	4,503*	19,802*	24,305*	17,330	35,631*	52,551*	4,513	20,228	24,741	54,575

\* Revised figures.

## Classified numerical statement of

Names of Circles.	Number of Post Offices.				Number of Post Offices with restricted functions.		
	Head Offices.	Sub-Offices.	Branch Offices.	Total.	No delivery offices.	No money order offices	No Savings Bank offices.
Bengal and Assam .	41	1,091	3,550	4,712	246	...	1,904
Bihar and Orissa . .	22	507	1,456	1,985	77	...	772
Bombay . . . .	24	705	2,701	3,430	180	4	1,431
Central . . . .	21	449	1,725	2,195	108	4	1,267
Madras . . . .	35	1,028	3,727	4,790	253	...	2,049
Punjab and North-West Frontier.	38	815	3,533	4,386	267	12	3,382
Sind and Baluchistan .	4	148	338	490	33	6	227
United Provinces . .	45	812	1,603	2,760	284	6	1,642
Total .	220	5,553	18,958	24,741	1,478	32	12,674

## DIX VII.

the offices in each circle on the 31st March 1940.

Number of Combined, Receiving and Telegraph Offices.						Number of Record, Sorting and Transit Offices and Sections.		
Combined Offices.				Postal Receiving Offices.	Depart- mental Telegraph Offices.	Record Offices.	Sorting and Transit Offices.	Sections.
Head Offices.	Sub- Offices.	Branch Offices.	Total.					
36	731	...	767	2,243	10	22	20	91
19	366	..	385	746	3	26	25	59
19	566	1	586	1,923	15	20	17	58
20	406	3	429	674	15	26	22	55
26	754	1	761	1,791	14	27	27	62
33	546	...	579	671	19	42	42	52
2	129	7	138	68	2	6	5	18
40	361	...	421	759	6	37	39	54
195	3,879	12	4,086	8,875	84	206	187	449

# APPENDIX VIII.

Estimated number of unregistered articles of the letter and parcel mail given out for delivery and actual number of registered articles posted.

Classes of articles.	1939-40.			1938-39.			Percentage of increase (+) or decrease (---) of the total number of articles as compared with figures of 1938-39.
	Articles other than P. & T. service.	P. & T. service articles.	Total.	Articles other than P. & T. service.	P. & T. service articles.	Total.	
<i>Articles of the letter mail.</i>							
1. Paid unregistered letters	523,791,660	86,407,545	610,199,205	502,144,880	83,627,786	585,772,666	+4.17
2. Postcards	371,895,736	2,135,380	374,031,116	380,555,345	1,944,277	382,499,622	-2.21
3. Registered newspapers	80,451,371	<i>Nil</i>	80,451,371	80,064,916	<i>Nil</i>	80,064,916	+0.48
4. Ordinary unregistered packets	128,075,189	379,469	128,454,658	129,954,291	384,918	130,339,209	-1.45
5. Unpaid and insufficiently paid articles	19,521,869	<i>Nil</i>	19,521,869	20,000,749	<i>Nil</i>	20,000,749	-2.39
6. Registered letters { Ordinary	20,238,081	3,107,291	23,345,372	20,097,849	3,004,364	23,102,213	+1.05
Value-payable	3,315,155	<i>Nil</i>	3,315,155	3,656,326	<i>Nil</i>	3,656,326	-9.34
7. Registered packets { Ordinary	1,317,934	202,351	1,520,285	1,156,019	172,810	1,328,829	+14.41
Value-payable	1,184,241	<i>Nil</i>	1,184,241	1,068,830	<i>Nil</i>	1,068,830	+10.80

8. Insured letters . . . . .	2,136,140	7,496	2,143,636	2,181,365	8,153	2,189,518	-2.10
Total	1,151,927,376	92,239,532	1,244,166,908	1,140,880,570	89,142,308	1,230,022,878	+1.15
<i>Articles of the parcel mail.</i>							
9. Ordinary unregistered parcels . . . . .	3,507,129	56,915	3,564,044	3,334,719	56,966	3,391,685	+5.08
10. Ordinary registered parcels . . . . .	4,326,911	378,509	4,705,420	4,536,764	367,564	4,904,328	-4.06
11. Value-payable registered parcels . . . . .	2,637,428	<i>Nil</i>	2,637,428	2,746,036	<i>Nil</i>	2,746,036	-3.96
12. Insured parcels . . . . .	392,371	8,371	400,742	389,082	9,517	398,599	+0.54
Total	10,863,839	443,795	11,307,634	11,006,601	434,047	11,440,648	-1.16
GRAND TOTAL	1,162,791,215	92,683,327	1,255,474,542	1,151,887,171	89,576,355	1,241,463,520	+1.13
13. <i>Deduct</i> —Number of articles deposited as load, i.e., undeliverable either to add- ressees or senders.	..	..	647,938	..	..	777,566	-16.67
Total number delivered .	..	.	1,254,826,604	..	..	1,240,685,960	+1.14

Figures shown against items (1) to (5), (9) and (13) have been computed from the actual number of such articles received for delivery on 14 days of the year. Figures relating to all other items represent the actual number of such articles posted.

# APPENDIX IX.

## Foreign Value Payable and Cash-on-Delivery business.

Countries.	1938-39.				1939-40.			
	Inward		Outward		Inward		Outward	
	Number.	Declared value.	Number.	Declared value.	Number.	Declared value.	Number.	Declared value.
1. Aden	343	Rs. 7,008	7,512	Rs. 2,31,273	290	5,122	6,680	Rs. 2,19,934
2. British colonies in Africa (a)	7	186	1,750	49,953	3	92	1,511	45,745
3. Burma	5,913	1,58,312	76,505	12,28,742	6,396	1,51,482	77,643	13,64,092
4. Ceylon	944	15,646	(b) 57,613	(b) 7,69,417	(c) 1,139	(c) 36,054	(c) 56,402	(c) 7,84,354
5. Eire (Ireland)	26,634	12,35,522	7	257	19,360	9,77,379	1	15
6. Great Britain and Northern Ireland.	9	150	570	17,133	8	304	364	13,055
7. Iraq	..	..	233	9,185	..	..	243	9,607
8. Johore	..	..	2,125	13,538	..	..	1,645	1,25,431
9. Kedah	..	..	764	6,815	..	..	419	10,281
10. Malaya	74	2,246	12,425	2,24,008	51	1,818	11,278	3,14,201
11. Portuguese India	227	1,722	5,948	1,95,831	261	965	4,038	1,39,488
12. Seychelles	..	..	19	3,547	..	..	8	2,290
Total	34,181	14,20,792	(b) 1,65,471	(b) 27,49,699	27,508	11,73,216	160,292	30,28,493

(a) Kenya, Uganda, Tanganyika Territory, Zanzibar and British Somaliland.

(b) Revised figures.

(c) Includes some articles relating to Adon and Burma also.

## APPENDIX X.

Number of articles dealt with in Dead Letter Offices.

1	Unregistered letters and postcards.	Registered newspapers.	Unregistered packets.	Unregistered parcels.	Registered letters, steards and packets.	Registered Parcels.	Total 1939-40.	Total 1938-39.
Estimated number of articles received for disposal in the Dead Letter offices (a).*	5,155,989	91,635	710,906	380	52,608	2,889	6,014,407	5,732,693
(1) Issued for delivery to addressees.	2,353,321	55,499	395,399	161	9,335	1,466	2,815,201	2,524,001
(2) Issued for delivery to senders.	2,353,980	29,137	249,552	162	33,957	664	2,667,482	2,544,651
(3) Total of (1) and (2)	4,707,301	84,636	644,951	323	43,292	2,150	5,482,683	5,068,652
(4) Actually delivered to addressees or senders.	4,598,030	84,058	640,101	323	40,947	2,110	5,366,469	4,955,332
(5) Returned as undeliverable.	108,371	578	4,880	...	2,345	40	116,214	113,320
(6) Deposited originally as undeliverable to either the addressees or the senders.	448,683	6,999	65,925	57	9,316	739	531,724	664,246
(7) Total deposited as "Dead".	557,059	7,577	70,805	57	11,661	779	647,938	777,566
Percentage of (7) on (a).	10.80	8.27	9.96	15.00	22.17	26.98	10.77	13.56

\*The figures represent the total number of articles of each kind received in Dead Letter Offices from post offices.



## APPENDIX XI.

## Statistics of Money Orders.

(1)	1938-39.		1939-40.	
	Number. (2)	Amount. (3)	Number. (4)	Amount. (5)
		Rs.		Rs.
(1) Inland money orders issued—				
(a) Ordinary . . . . .	39,520,804	89,57,72,424	40,785,002	71,16,81,740
(b) Telegraphic money orders . . . . .	596,465	3,72,59,976	587,978	3,74,76,657
(c) Total . . . . .	40,117,269	73,30,32,400	41,372,980	74,91,58,397
(2) Foreign (including Indian States) money orders—				
(a) Issued . . . . .	328,814	97,12,858	328,459	93,31,871
(b) Paid . . . . .	2,315,482	6,98,22,436	2,399,891	7,48,78,306
(c) Total . . . . .	2,644,296	7,95,35,294	2,728,350	8,42,10,177
(3) Grand Total . . . . .	42,761,565	81,25,67,694	44,101,330	83,33,68,574
(4) Revenue money orders . . . . .	601,825	1,00,05,139	599,376	1,00,11,156
(5) Rent money orders . . . . .	373,839	48,14,135	326,849	43,75,876
(6) Official money orders . . . . .	965,198	2,77,98,227	1,123,541	3,02,27,677

NOTE.—The figures in items (4), (5) and (6) are included in item 1 (c).

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**APPENDIX XII.**

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## APPEN

## Business of the Post

Names of Circles.	Number of Head Banks.	Number of Sub-Banks.	NUMBER OF ACCOUNTS.				Opening balance.	Deposits.
			At the end of the preceding year.	Opened during the year.	Closed during the year.	At the end of the year.		
							Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
Bengal and Assam.	41	2,769	1,056,748	148,893	69,435	1,136,206	16,03,44,679 15 8	9,43,90,247 0 2
Bihar and Orissn.	22	1,199	274,324	49,937	23,548	301,693	5,52,16,821 11 4	3,23,61,357 0 8
Bombay .	24	1,975	573,911	99,057	48,914	624,054	12,91,07,460 8 0	6,51,93,652 13 7
Central .	21	907	236,811	41,030	21,848	256,593	4,82,91,209 11 11	2,58,95,018 10 1
Madras .	35	2,511	633,844	112,959	53,474	693,329	6,45,14,936 12 1	5,73,26,178 5 8
Punjab and N.-W. F.	38	986	742,119	145,915	96,735	7,1,329	18,06,24,327 1 0	10,09,29,041 1 11
Sind and Baluchistan.	4	253	113,725	21,399	14,808	120,316	2,45,59,310 14 11	1,61,73,991 15 10
United Provinces.	45	1,070	609,830	110,779	61,477	658,632	13,56,44,645 1 11	6,71,62,852 10 2
Total for 1939-40.	230	11,040	4,240,702	731,199	369,339	4,682,762	81,86,02,751 13 4	(a) 46,24,53,609 10 1
Total for 1938-39.	230	11,879	3,786,495	821,053	(c) 366,787	4,240,791	77,49,14,176 8 9	(b) 50,43,06,182 10 0
Percentage of increase(+) or decrease (-).	0	-2.02	+12	-10.95	+6.13	+8.06	+5.63	--8.30

(a) Includes Rs. 5,72,73,616-11-10 on account of transfer

(b) Includes Rs. 5,82,79,145-13-1 on account of transfer

(c) Includes 431,834 on account of transfer

## DIX XII.

## Office Savings Bank.

Interest.		Total.		Withdrawals.		Balance.		Average number of depositors per bank.	Average balance in each bank.	Average balance at credit of each depositor.
Rs.	A. P.	Rs.	A. P.	Rs.	A. P.	Rs.	A. P.		Rs.	Rs.
25,79,106	11 7	27,78,13,938	11 5	9,95,83,388	8 10	17,77,30,547	2 7	404.34	63,249.30	156.42
7,94,548	3 4	8,83,72,726	15 4	3,26,35,784	0 6	55,73,69,942	14 10	248.92	45,987.57	164.75
18,20,237	2 2	19,04,21,550	7 9	7,80,21,724	10 9	12,13,99,825	13 0	312.48	60,730.28	194.35
6,73,708	4 10	7,48,59,996	10 10	2,91,96,755	5 7	4,56,63,241	5 3	276.50	49,206.08	177.96
8,85,712	2 5	12,27,26,827	4 2	6,07,33,248	8 10	6,19,93,678	11 4	272.32	24,349.40	89.41
25,28,777	4 1	28,40,82,145	7 6	11,80,09,606	14 4	16,00,73,536	9 2	786.17	1,65,410.89	209.86
3,29,191	9 4	4,10,62,494	8 1	1,55,65,634	3 9	2,24,96,660	4 4	469.98	2,67,878.36	166.98
19,48,844	3 1	20,47,70,271	15 2	7,27,07,121	12 0	13,20,63,150	3 2	590.70	1,18,442.28	200.51
1,15,54,625	8 10	1,29,26,09,947	0 3	(a) 50,94,53,262	0 7	78,31,56,684	15 8	386.07	65,977.82	170.89
1,41,52,924	2 6	1,29,33,73,283	5 3	(b) 47,47,70,531	7 11	31,86,02,751	13 4	350.22	67,602.84	193.03
-18.36		-0.6		+7.30		-4.34		+10.28	-3.41	- 47

Transactions of Savings Bank accounts from one post office to another.  
 transactions of Savings Bank accounts from one post office to another.  
 from live Accounts to Dead Savings Bank Accounts.

## Statement of Post Office 5-year Cash Certificates

Names of Circles.	ISSUED.				
	Denominations.				
	10	20	50	100	500
Bengal and Assam . . . . .	11,074	3,932	9,583	28,895	9,789
Bihar and Orissa . . . . .	1,558	690	1,647	4,835	1,994
Bombay . . . . .	11,315	6,165	12,725	39,110	13,902
Burma . . . . .	...	...	.	—1	—6
Central . . . . .	2,073	905	2,654	8,668	3,392
Madras . . . . .	8,343	1,564	3,772	9,330	3,533
Punjab and North-West Frontier . .	3,906	1,627	4,176	14,744	7,574
Sind and Baluchistan . . . . .	2,143	673	1,845	7,012	2,021
United Provinces . . . . .	5,352	2,293	6,483	16,684	7,115
<b>Total</b>	<b>45,760</b>	<b>17,940</b>	<b>42,865</b>	<b>1,29,263</b>	<b>49,274</b>
Total for the preceding year . .	40,449	33,265	53,718	1,72,925	75,934
Increase (+) or decrease (—) . .	5,321	—15,316	—10,833	—43,662	—26,660
Percentage of increase(+) or decrease(—)	+ 13.2	—46.0	—20.2	—25.2	—35.1

NOTE—1. Holders of Cash Certificates in Burma and Aden prior to their separation have been permitted against  
 2. The discharge of Cash Certificates in Aden is merged  
 3. The minus figures against Burma Circle under Cash Certificates

**DIX XIII.**

issued and discharged during the year 1939-40.

ISSUED.					Cost price realised.
Denominations.					
1,000	2,000	3,000	4,000	5,000	
					Rs.   A. P.
11,680	442	163	73	267	2,04,23,537 10 0
2,797	111	36	26	92	46,53,597 3 0
16,057	350	165	103	237	2,79,30,108 9 0
—23	...	...	...	...	20,400 0 0
4,703	107	50	23	91	73,03,673 3 0
4,333	144	55	27	102	73,38,100 11 0
11,109	340	119	94	212	1,66,12,694 2 0
2,883	18	11	19	29	44,10,055 8 0
8,598	411	149	94	301	1,51,27,390 5 0
62,037	1,023	738	450	1,331	10,37,79,647 3 0
1,03,052	883	303	151	536	14,70,60,527 1 0
—41,015	+1,040	+430	+308	+795	—4,41,80,879 14 0
—39·8	+117·8	+144·4	+204·0	+148·3	—29·9

to hold them until the date of maturity and as such the discharge of Cash Certificates in Burma is shown in the amount shown against Bombay Circle.  
 issued represent Cash Certificates transferred from Burma to India.

## Statement of Post Office 5-year Cash Certificates

Names of Circles.	DISCHARGED.					
	Denominations.					
	10	20	50	100	500	1,000
Bengal and Assam . . . . .	11,704	8,091	11,069	37,020	12,009	16,998
Bihar and Orissa . . . . .	1,550	1,240	1,749	5,554	2,359	3,552
Bombay . . . . .	11,904	8,730	16,098	55,295	19,475	26,403
Burma . . . . .	481	453	544	1,592	684	1,799
Central . . . . .	2,197	2,035	3,420	11,403	4,701	6,987
Madras . . . . .	4,418	3,094	4,056	9,838	3,463	5,809
Punjab and North-West Frontier . .	3,914	3,599	6,344	21,223	10,245	17,190
Sind and Baluchistan . . . . .	2,124	1,559	2,307	8,703	2,633	3,480
United Provinces . . . . .	5,855	6,120	7,371	21,730	8,538	12,904
Total . . . . .	44,177	34,924	52,958	1,72,358	61,107	95,272
Total for the preceding year . . . .	56,681	44,783	71,958	2,15,530	80,854	1,19,381
Increase (+) or decrease (—) . . . .	—12,504	—9,859	—19,000	—43,172	—19,747	—24,109
Percentage of increase (+) or decrease (—)	—23.1	—22.0	—26.4	—20.0	—20.7	—20.2

NOTE—1. Holders of cash certificates in Burma and Aden prior to their separation have been permitted against

2. The discharge of cash certificates in Aden is merged  
3. The minus figures against Burma Circle under Cash Certificates

DIX XIII—*contd.*issued and discharged during the year 1939-40—*contd.*

## DISCHARGED.

Denominations.				AMOUNT PAID.		
2,000	3,000	4,000	5,000	Principal.	Interest.	TOTAL.
				RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.
53	11	6	25	2,37,59,533 7 0	34,83,283 1 3	2,72,47,816 8 3
9	1	3	10	46,86,835 1 0	6,63,751 7 0	53,50,586 8 0
59	25	17	32	3,70,98,114 0 0	48,52,812 7 7	4,19,50,926 7 7
...	...	..	...	19,81,868 4 0	3,44,122 13 9	23,25,991 1 9
13	5	4	1	92,20,153 12 0	12,28,811 15 7	1,04,48,965 11 7
18	8	3	12	77,34,400 9 0	9,68,114 5 6	87,02,514 14 6
50	10	13	22	2,14,72,634 9 4	28,06,901 3 6	2,42,79,535 12 10
2	...	...	1	50,01,292 15 0	6,31,450 1 3	56,32,743 0 3
30	11	9	19	1,70,45,040 11 0	24,52,249 8 4	1,94,97,289 3 4
233	71	54	122	12,79,99,873 4 4	1,74,36,495 15 9	14,54,36,369 4 1
35	8	4	6	15,34,67,053 7 0	3,34,54,667 3 10	18,69,21,720 10 10
+193	+63	+50	+116	-2,54,67,180 2 8	-1,80,18,171 4 1	-4,14,85,351 6 9
+565·7	+787·5	+1,250·0	+1,933·3	-16·6	-47·9	-22·2

to hold them until the date of maturity and as discharge of cash certificates in Burma shown  
 Burma.  
 in the amount shown against Bombay Circle.  
 issued represent cash certificates transferred from Burma to India.





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**APPENDIX XV.**

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[illegible]

# APPENDIX XVI.

Abstract of Life Insurance Policies, Endowment Assurance Policies and Contracts issued, discharged, lapsed and surrendered during the year 1939-40.

	Life Insurance Policies issued.		Endowment Assurance Policies issued.		Monthly Allowance Contracts issued.	
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.
		Rs. A. P.		Rs. A. P.		Rs. A. P.
Balance of 1938-39 . . . . .	16,059	3,73,38,770 0 0	81,692	15,62,54,558 0 0	18	352 7 8
Issued during the year . . . . .	638	16,53,421 0 0	5,715	1,06,25,989 0 0	..	..
Total . . . . .	16,697	3,89,92,191 0 0	87,407	16,68,80,547 0 0	18	352 7 8
Deduct—Discharge during the year by death . . . . .	271	*5,05,081 0 0	514	9,60,701 0 0	1	5 9 0
Maturity . . . . .	..	..	1,639	29,46,115 0 0	..	..
Surrender . . . . .	128	2,55,461 0 0	803	11,12,385 0 0	..	..
Lapse . . . . .	7	41,000 0 0	49	60,050 0 0	..	..
Cancellation . . . . .	..	..	6	7,200 0 0	..	..
Total . . . . .	406	8,01,542 0 0	3,011	50,86,451 0 0	1	5 9 0
Balance on 31st March 1940 . . . . .	16,291	3,81,90,649 0 0	84,396	16,17,94,096 0 0	17	346 14 8

\* In addition to the amounts the sums of Rs. 1,65,535 and Rs. 10,71,165 have been paid as bonuses on Life Insurance and Endowment Assurance policies respectively.

# APPENDIX XVII.

## Post Office Insurance Fund Account for the year ended 31st March 1940.

Life Insurance Account.		Endowment Assurance Account.		Monthly Allowance Account.	
Receipts.	Payments.	Receipts.	Payments.	Receipts.	Payments.
Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
Funds at the beginning of the year 1,40,70,383 0 3	Claims paid . 6,91,385 1 11	Funds at the beginning of the year . 7,07,20,183 11 0	Claims paid . 50,60,003 0 10	Funds at the beginning of the year . 67,738 3 0	Claims paid . 2,800 3 9
Premium realised 11,63,097 3 4	Surrender value paid . 95,509 13 0	Premium realised . 71,02,070 14 7	Surrender value paid . 9,00,003 1 0	Subscriptions realised . 43 13 0	Surrender value paid . . .
Fines . . 263 4 0	Establishment and other charges including medical fees . 63,161 0 0	Fines . . 2,308 0 0	Establishment and other charges including medical fees . 3,26,503 3 0	Fines . . .	Establishment and other charges . 65 0 0
Medical fees realised . 313 0 0	Refunds . . 817 11 0	Medical fees realised . 648 2 0	Refunds . 13,808 4 2	Interest . . 2,357 15 1	Refunds . . .
Interest . 5,33,600 13 4	Reserve value of converted policies . 12,677 0 0	Interest . 24,91,475 13 10	Fund at the end of the year 7,43,19,477 0 5	Interest . . .	Fund at the end of the year . 67,133 10 5
	Fund at the end of the year 1,55,11,608 10 3	Reserve value of converted policies . 13,877 0 0			
TOTAL. 1,63,77,197 4 11	TOTAL . 1,63,77,197 4 11	TOTAL . 8,03,19,063 0 2	TOTAL . 8,03,19,063 0 2	TOTAL . 70,065 14 1	TOTAL . 72,054 14 1

\* Revised figures.

## APPENDIX XVIII.

## PRINCIPAL STEAMER SERVICES.

By the British India Steam Navigation Company.

- (1) Direct communication three times a week between Calcutta and Rangoon.
- (2) Weekly direct communication between Madras and Rangoon.
- (3) Weekly direct communication between Bombay and Karachi.
- (4) Fortnightly communication between Karachi and Basrah *via* Guadur Khorramshahr and other Persian Gulf Ports.
- (5) Fortnightly communication between Karachi and Basrah *via* Pasni, Charbar, Dubai, Kuwait and other Persian Gulf Ports.
- (6) Fortnightly communication between Bombay, Mombasa, Zanzibar, Beira, Delagoa Bay and Durban with calls on the outward voyage every four weeks at the Seychelles, Mozambique and Dar-es-Salaam.
- (7) Weekly communication from Negapatam to the Straits (temporarily fortnightly).
- (8) Additional services between any of the ports served by the above-mentioned lines and between any of the ports on the Coromandal coast and Rangoon.

Under contract with the Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department for a term of ten years from 1st October 1938 on an annual remuneration of Rs. 8,68,275.

By the Asiatic Steam Navigation Company.

- (9) Communication at intervals of about three weeks between Calcutta and Port Blair, with extensions to Madras and Rangoon.

The mail service is performed under special arrangements made by Government on payment of an annual contribution of Rs. 8,500 by this Department. There is no contract with this Department.



By the British India Steam Navigation Company.

- (10) Communication at irregular intervals between Calcutta and the Straits Settlements and Hong Kong.

The consideration is not in the form of a money subsidy but a guarantee of certain concessions.

APPENDIX XVIII—*contd.*PRINCIPAL STEAMER SERVICES—*contd.*By the British India Steam Navigation Company—*contd.*

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <p>(11) By the Bombay Steam Navigation Company, Ltd. Daily communication between Bombay and Goa (temporarily suspended).</p> | <p>Under contract with the Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department from the 1st October to 31st May each year for a period of 3 years with effect from the 1st October 1939. The monthly payment made by the Department is Rs. 2,250 towards which the Government of Portuguese India contribute Rs. 200.</p> |
| <p>(12) By the Nawanagar State, Jamnagar. Daily communication between Rozi Bunder and Kandla Bunder.</p>                     | <p>Under contract with the Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department on a monthly payment of Rs. 600 from the 1st December 1936 for a period of 5 years. This monthly payment of Rs. 600 includes charges for conveyance of mails by State Buses between Jamnagar R S. and Rozi Bunder.</p>                     |



# **APPENDIX XIX.** **Statistics of telegrams.**

	1938-39.		1939-40.	
	Number.	Receipts.	Number.	Receipts.
		Rs.		Rs.
		<i>Inland.</i>		
(1) State—				
Express . . . .	455,769	8,51,682	433,552	9,53,131
Ordinary . . . .	502,392	7,08,614	593,009	9,05,858
(2) Private—				
Express . . . .	1,132,390	22,29,578	1,500,727	28,25,384
Ordinary . . . .	11,010,876	94,69,468	12,630,452	1,11,84,707
(3) Raj—				
Express . . . .	10,117	40,937	15,495	60,286
Ordinary . . . .	48,202	68,952	58,193	80,202
(4) Press—				
Express . . . .	118,381	2,33,193	105,678	2,10,616
Ordinary . . . .	321,944	3,52,813	335,523	2,81,512
(5) Total . . . .	13,600,071	(a) 1,39,55,237	15,672,629	(b) 1,65,01,696

## *Foreign.*

	Number.	Indian share of value.	Number.	Indian share of value.
		Rs.		Rs.
(6) State . . . . .	(c) 23,823	(c) 61,607	(d) 48,743	(d) 1,79,414
(7) Private—				
Urgent . . . . .	1,932	11,260	3,398	29,581
Ordinary . . . . .	(e) 1,203,639*	(e) 15,51,468*	(f) 1,452,387	(f) 28,60,471
Deferred . . . . .	352,771	4,27,079	698,577	13,22,027
D. L. T. . . . .	(g) 102,978	(g) 1,73,924	(h) 208,578	(h) 4,85,856
Code . . . . .	1,028,817	14,73,969	465,595	7,80,501
(8) Press . . . . .	59,374	1,15,958	61,374	1,35,812
(9) Total . . . . .	2,773,334	38,15,265	2,938,652	57,93,662

(a) Inclusive of Rs. 5,40,405 on account of abbreviated addresses and exclusive of Rs. 3,58,777 on account of debit adjustments.

(b) Inclusive of Rs. 5,27,696 on account of abbreviated addresses and exclusive of Rs. 2,53,580 on account of debit adjustments.

	Number.	Indian share of revenue.
		Rs.
(c) Includes code telegrams, viz., (CDE) . . . . .	8,958	24,664
(d) Includes code telegrams, viz., (CDE) . . . . .	14,632	27,790
(e) Includes telegrams concerning the overseas telephone service, (XT). . . . .	136	47
(f) Includes telegrams concerning the overseas telephone service, (XT) . . . . .	80	35
(g) { Includes Christmas greetings telegrams (XLT) . . . . .	25,510	14,989
{ Includes night letter telegrams (NLT) . . . . .	17,896	30,842
{ Includes Christmas greetings telegrams, (XLT) . . . . .	3,006	3,916
(h) { Includes Night Letter telegrams, (NLT) . . . . .	89,763	1,90,650
{ Includes Empire Social Telegrams (GLT) . . . . .	23,812	16,957
{ Includes Expeditionary Force Messages (EFM) . . . . .	584	302

\*Includes figures of transit press telegrams which are not separately available.

## APPENDIX XX.

Working expenses per telegram under signalling and line maintenance and average value of a paid telegram from 1925-26 to 1939-40.

Year.	Total number of paid telegrams in millions.	TOTAL REVENUE EXPENSES IN LAKHS OF RUPEES.			REVENUE EXPENSES PER TELEGRAM IN RUPEES.			Average value of a paid telegram.
		Engineer-ing.	Traffic.	Total.	Engineer-ing.	Traffic.	Total.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	No.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1925-26 .	18·768	72·03	179·39	251·42	·384	·955	1·339	1·192
1926-27 .	19·023	76·34	176·45	252·79	·401	·928	1·329	1·160
1927-28 .	19·974	92·20	175·17	267·37	·462	·877	1·339	1·142
1928-29 .	20·241	92·18	183·19	275·37	·455	·905	1·360	1·157
1929-30 .	19·476	83·83	179·49	263·32	·430	·922	1·352	1·138
1930-31 .	18·115	86·38	185·87	272·25	·477	1·026	1·503	1·130
1931-32 .	17·161	63·30	181·02	244·32	·369	1·054	1·423	1·176
1932-33 .	15·593	60·81	167·34	228·15	·390	1·073	1·463	1·232
1933-34 .	15·558	83·81	166·61	250·42	·539	1·071	1·610	1·252
1934-35 .	17·207	51·66	169·26	220·92	·300	·984	1·284	1·146
1935-36 .	17·251	61·65	181·41	243·06	·357	1·052	1·409	1·133
1936-37 .	17·867	59·42	182·40	241·82	·332	1·021	1·353	1·140
1937-38 .	16·319	45·18	167·82	213·00	·277	1·028	1·305	1·176
1938-39 .	16·373	46·19	180·47	226·66	·282	1·102	1·384	1·111
1939-40 .	18·611	43·22	186·71	229·93	·232	1·003	1·235	1·198

N. B.—Figures up to 1936-37 include Burma and Aden.

## APPENDIX XXI.

*Grant of stamps to certain Indian States.*

The Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department makes an annual grant, free of charge, of service postage stamps to certain Indian States which are in postal unity with the department, while in the case of a few other such States the department has undertaken to carry free of charge within their territories correspondence and postal articles sent by State officials on the business of the State. The circumstances connected with the grant of these concessions have been the subject of discussion from time to time, and engaged the attention of the Posts and Telegraphs Accounts Enquiry Committee of 1931 which endorsed the observations of the Butler Committee that the grant of service stamps had been made on no general principle. Broadly speaking however the concessions were made in most cases to attain throughout India a unified postal system which would conduce to the general convenience of the public and the ultimate advantage of the department. The Committee of 1931 did not recommend immediately either the stoppage of these concessions or the allocation of their cost to any other department of Government, but advised that no further concessions should be granted at the expense of the department until the constitutional issue had been settled. The recommendations of the Indian States Enquiry Committee (Financial) on this question are contained in paragraphs 399—401 of their Report. A list of the States in whose cases "free" service stamps are granted is subjoined.

*List of Indian States receiving grants of service postage stamps.*

Name of State.	Amount.	Name of State.	Amount.
	Ra.		Rs.
Alwar . . . . .	30,000	Jhallawar . . . . .	2,400
Bahawalpur . . . . .	4,000	Jubbal . . . . .	250
Baroda . . . . .	85,000	Kalsia . . . . .	450
Bharatpur . . . . .	12,000	Kashmir . . . . .	20,000
Bhopal . . . . .	8,380	Kotah . . . . .	15,000
Bikaner . . . . .	35,000	Loharu . . . . .	300
Bushahr . . . . .	600	Malerkotla . . . . .	900
Cooch Behar . . . . .	9,000	Mandi . . . . .	700
Datia . . . . .	5,000	Marwar (Jodhpur) . . . . .	39,000
Dhar . . . . .	3,000	Patna . . . . .	900
Faridkot . . . . .	1,000	Sikkim . . . . .	1,500
Gwalior . . . . .	480	Sirmoor . . . . .	1,275
Idar . . . . .	550	Suket . . . . .	700
Indore . . . . .	35,000		

## APPENDIX XXII.

Communal strength of postal and telegraph officials actually employed on the 1st January 1940 and the communal composition of the staff recruited to the Department during the year 1939.  
(Excludes Audit Staff, Extra Departmental Agents, Mail Runners, Inferior staff paid from contingencies and Inferior staff of the Directorate).

	Actual strength on the 1st January 1940.										New recruits appointed during 1939.									
	Total number.	Europeans.	Hindus.		Muslims.	Domestic Europeans and Anglo-Indians.	Sikhs.	Indian Christians.	Parsis.	Other communities.	Total number.	Europeans.	Hindus.		Muslims.	Domestic Europeans and Anglo-Indians.	Sikhs.	Indian Christians.	Parsis.	Other communities.
			Other than Depressed Classes.	Depressed Classes.									Other than Depressed Classes.	Depressed Classes.						
(i) Telegraph Engineering Service, class I.*	52	14	26	...	4	4	1	3	...	...	...	3	...	2	...	...	...	1	...	...
(ii) Indian Posts and Telegraphs Traffic Service, class I.	28	7	8	...	3	7	...	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
(iii) General Central Service, class I.	16	4	7	...	2	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
(iv) Telegraph Engineering and Wireless Service, Class II.	97	14	15	...	3	60	...	2	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
(v) Postmasters' Service, class II.	44	1	15	...	6	18	...	1	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
(vi) Postal Superintendents' Service, class II.	129	2	80	...	27	12	4	3	1	...	...	6	...	4	...	1	...	...	...	...
(vii) Telegraph Traffic Service, class II.	54	1	...	...	1	50	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total	420	43	151	...	46	154	5	12	8	1	...	9	...	6	...	1	...	1	...	...

I.—Gazetted Staff.																				
(i) Telegraph Engineering Service, class I.*	52	14	26	...	4	4	1	3	...	...	...	3	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...
(ii) Indian Posts and Telegraphs Traffic Service, class I.	28	7	8	...	3	7	...	1	1	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
(iii) General Central Service, class I.	16	4	7	...	2	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
(iv) Telegraph Engineering and Wireless Service, Class II.	97	14	15	...	3	60	...	2	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
(v) Postmasters' Service, class II.	44	1	15	...	6	18	...	1	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
(vi) Postal Superintendents' Service, class II.	129	2	80	...	27	12	4	3	1	...	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
(vii) Telegraph Traffic Service, class II.	54	1	...	...	1	50	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total	420	43	151	...	46	154	5	12	8	1	...	9	...	6	...	1	...	1	...	...

### I.—Gazetted Staff.

\*The designation 'Superior Telegraph Engineering and Wireless Branches' has been changed to this.

Name of Circle.	Actual strength on the 1st January 1940.										New recruits appointed during 1939.											
	Total number.	Europeans.	Hindus.			Muslims.	Domilled Europeans and Anglo-Indians.	Sikhs.	Indian Christians.	Pariahs.	Other communities.	Total number.	Europeans.	Hindus.			Muslims.	Domilled Europeans and Anglo-Indians.	Sikhs.	Indian Christians.	Pariahs.	Other communities.
			Other than Depressed Classes.	Depressed Classes.	Other than Depressed Classes.									Depressed Classes.								
Bengal and Assam . . . . .	41	..	28	..	..	12	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Bihar and Orissa . . . . .	28	..	14	..	1	13	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Bombay . . . . .	34	..	14	..	..	13	1	..	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Central . . . . .	21	..	12	..	..	8	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Madras . . . . .	30	..	17	..	..	8	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Punjab and North-West Frontier.	63	..	23	..	..	28	4	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
United Provinces . . . . .	35	..	16	..	..	17	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Sind and Baluchistan . . . . .	19	..	7	..	..	10	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Miscellaneous Offices . . . . .	13	..	9	..	..	3	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
(Electrical Engineer-in-Chief, Controller of Telegraph Stores, Accounts Officer, Telegraph, Stores and Workshops, Accounts Officer, Telephone Revenue, and Superintendent, Postal Seals.)																						
Total . . . . .	284	..	140	1	12	112	5	13	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

II.—Engineering Supervisors, General and Telephones, Electrical Supervisors and Cable Supervisors.

## II.—Engineering Supervisors, General and Telephones, Electrical Supervisors and Cable Supervisors.



Name of Circle.	Actual strength on the 1st January 1940.						New recruits appointed during 1939.					
	Total number.	Europeans.		Muslims.	Domestic Europeans and Anglo-Indians.		Sikhs.	Indian Christians.	Paras.	Other communities.	Total number.	Europeans.
		Hindus.	Depressed Classes.		Other than Depressed Classes.	Depressed Classes.						

## VI.—Line Staff.

Bengal and Assam	513	308	6	191	...	...	...	6	...	2	4	...	...
Bihar and Orissa	262	188	15	57	...	...	...	2	...	...	3	...	...
Bombay	399	232	58	100	...	...	...	9	...	...	5	...	...
Central	393	237	2	148	...	...	...	6	...	...	21	...	...
Madras	491	307	34	104	...	...	...	40	...	...	1	...	...
Punjab and North-West Frontier.	890	331	2	502	...	...	52	3	...	...	13	...	...
United Provinces	443	295	1	142	1	...	1	3	...	...	8	...	...
Sind and Baluchistan	250	57	...	193	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total	3,641	1,955	118	1,437	1	53	76	...	2	55	...	...	...

## VII.—Departmental Branch Postmasters, Overseers, Overseer Reader, Sorting and Head Postmen, Village Postmen and Mailguards.

Bengal and Assam	4,054	3,366	309	1,229	8	2	33	...	14	72	...	...	...
Bihar and Orissa	2,310	1,752	55	471	...	...	16	...	16	10	...	...	...
Bombay	4,828	3,832	40	892	...	2	120	...	2	104	...	...	...
Central	1,973	1,465	69	426	...	...	13	...	...	13	...	...	...

Madras	4,455	...	3,543	28	673	...	1	210	...	...	12	...	7	1	2	...	...	2	...
Punjab and North-West Frontier.	3,568	...	1,345	8	2,055	...	146	14	...	...	41	...	13	...	24	...	4	...	...
United Provinces	4,387	...	3,392	40	944	...	1	4	...	...	20	...	10	...	9	...	...	1	...
Sind and Baluchistan.	444	...	292	1	206	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total	20,921	...	18,927	556	6,836	3	157	410	...	...	32	272	140	12	96	...	5	18	1

## VIII.—Miscellaneous Superior Staff.

Bengal and Assam	291	...	188	2	69	20	1	10	...	...	1	8	5	...	2	...	...	1	...
Bihar and Orissa	92	...	56	...	29	3	...	4	...	...	...	3	2	...	1	...	...	...	...
Bombay	182	...	108	1	27	12	...	26	6	...	2	2	1	...	1	...	...	...	...
Central	92	...	60	...	14	8	...	7	1	...	...	4	2	...	2	...	...	...	...
Madras	186	...	123	5	14	11	...	33	...	...	...	5	4	...	...	...	...	1	...
Punjab and North-West Frontier.	429	...	152	...	222	18	32	5	...	...	...	12	2	...	10	...	...	...	...
United Provinces	202	...	157	2	62	27	2	11	...	...	1	11	8	...	2	1	...	...	...
Sind and Baluchistan	49	...	24	...	21	...	1	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Miscellaneous offices	22	1	14	...	4	3	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Total	1,605	1	882	10	462	102	38	99	7	4	46	24	18	2	...	2	...	2	...

## IX.—Inferior Staff (other than Runners and inferior servants paid from contingencies).

Bengal and Assam	3,018	...	2,014	224	746	1	4	19	...	10	90	42	34	6	5	...	...	3	...
Bihar and Orissa	1,300	...	1,011	35	221	...	1	30	...	2	98	65	20	3	10	...	...	...	...
Bombay	3,034	...	2,342	81	519	...	2	88	1	1	223	143	43	7	30	...	...	...	...
Central	1,288	...	863	73	320	...	6	26	...	...	86	42	27	8	8	...	1	...	...
Madras	2,455	...	1,696	111	458	2	...	188	...	...	177	123	38	6	10	...	...	...	...



Name of Circle.	Actual strength on the 1st January 1940.										New recruits appointed during 1939.												
	Total number.	Europeans.	Hindus.			Muslims.	Domiled Europeans and Anglo-Indians.	Sikhs.	Indian Christians.	Parsis.	Other communities.	Total number.	Europeans.	Hindus.			Muslims.	Domiled Europeans and Anglo-Indians.	Sikhs.	Indian Christians.	Parsis.	Other communities.	
			Other than Depressed Classes.	Depressed Classes.	Hindus.																		

IX.—Inferior Staff (other than Runners and inferior servants paid from contingencies)—*contd.*

Punjab and North-West Frontier.	2,266	...	984	25	1,073	...	168	16	...	...	...	94	...	24	...	56	...	12	2	...	...
United Provinces . . .	2,281	...	1,650	72	546	...	1	12	...	...	...	144	...	97	2	41	...	...	4	...	...
Sind and Baluchistan . .	524	...	284	1	227	1	8	2	...	1	1	13	...	4	...	8	...	1	...	...	...
Miscellaneous offices . .	92	...	54	...	31	...	6	1	...	...	...	6	...	2	...	3	...	...	1	...	...
Total . . .	16,268	...	10,898	622	4,141	4	196	382	1	14	14	931	...	542	32	270	...	14	70	...	3

X.—Direction (Non-Gazetted).

Clerical staff . . .	174	...	133	2	33	3	2	1	...	...	...	14	...	9	...	5	...	...	...	...	...
GRAND TOTAL . . .	80,578	57	55,173	1,447	18,689	1,800	958	2,126	194	134	1,988	...	1,152	46	612	22	30	117	3	6	...

## Postal Traffic since 1925-26

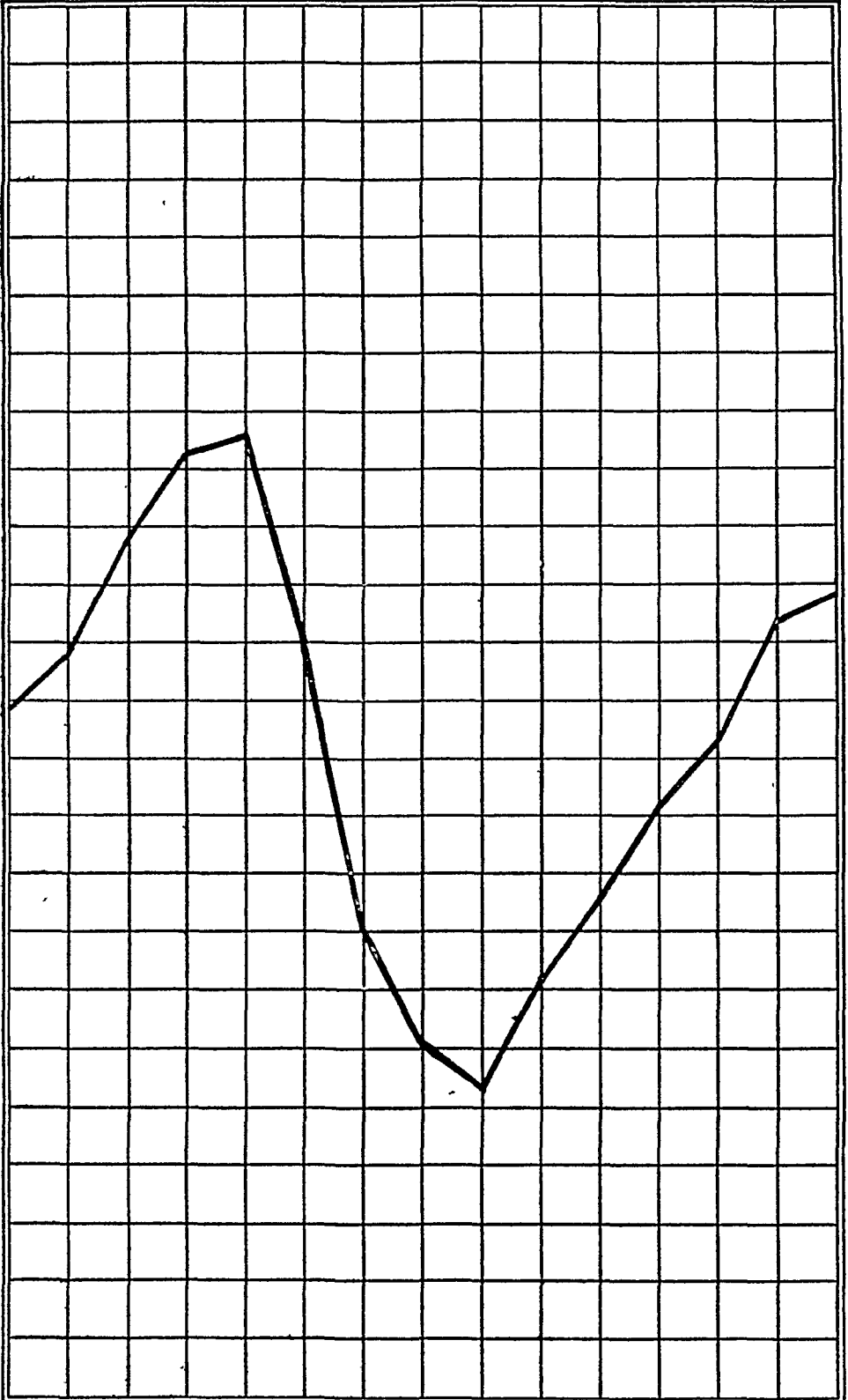
## All Articles.

(Excludes Figures for British and Indian Postal Orders)

Years 1925 1926 1927 1928 1929 1930 1931 1932 1933 1934 1935 1936 1937 1938 1939  
 -26 -27 -28 -29 -30 -31 -32 -33 -34 -35 -36 -37 -38 -39 -40

Millions

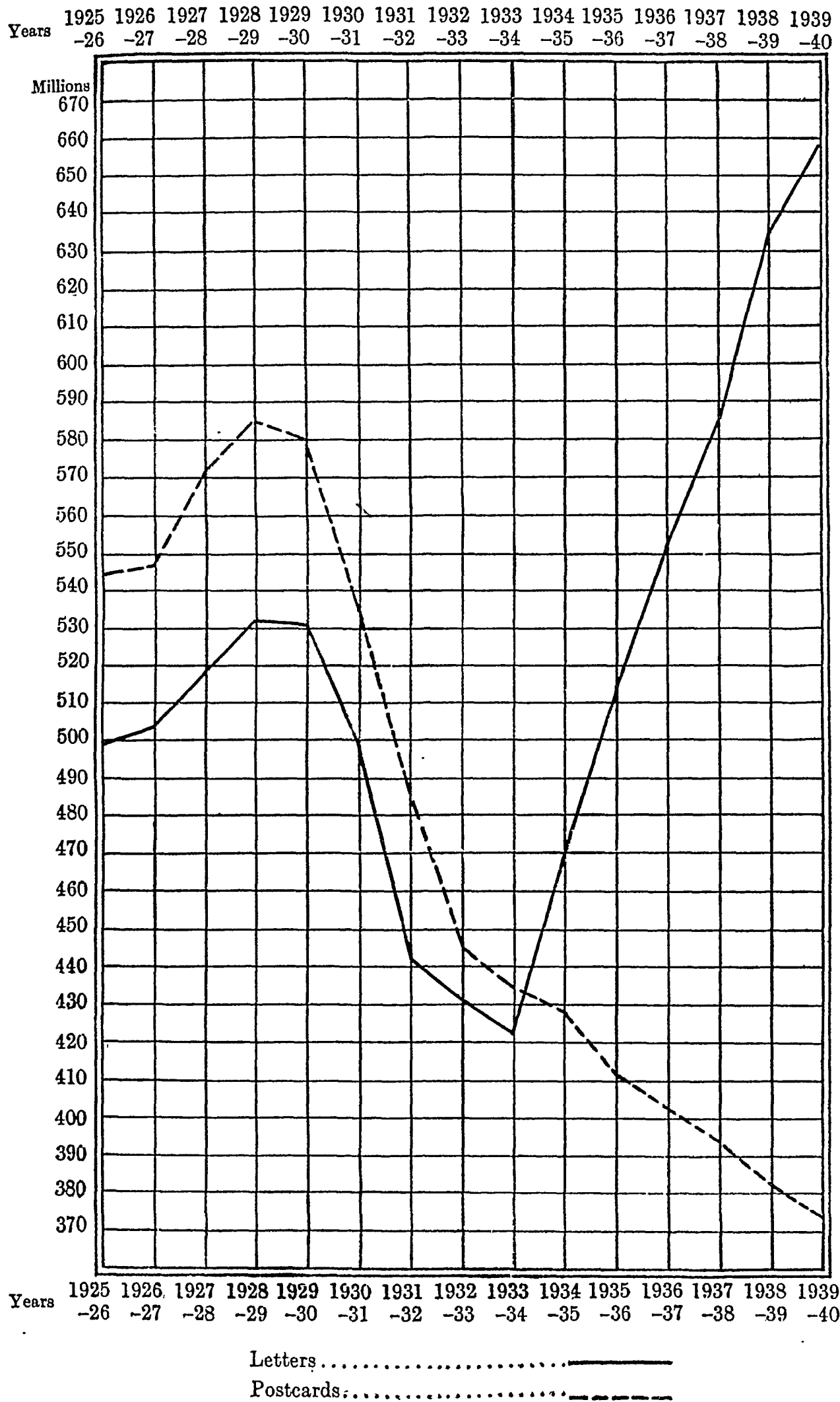
1525  
 1500  
 1475  
 1450  
 1425  
 1400  
 1375  
 1350  
 1325  
 1300  
 1275  
 1250  
 1225  
 1200  
 1175  
 1150  
 1125  
 1100  
 1075  
 1050  
 1025  
 1000  
 975



Years 1925 1926 1927 1928 1929 1930 1931 1932 1933 1934 1935 1936 1937 1938 1939  
 -26 -27 -28 -29 -30 -31 -32 -33 -34 -35 -36 -37 -38 -39 -40



# Number of Letters and Postcards.

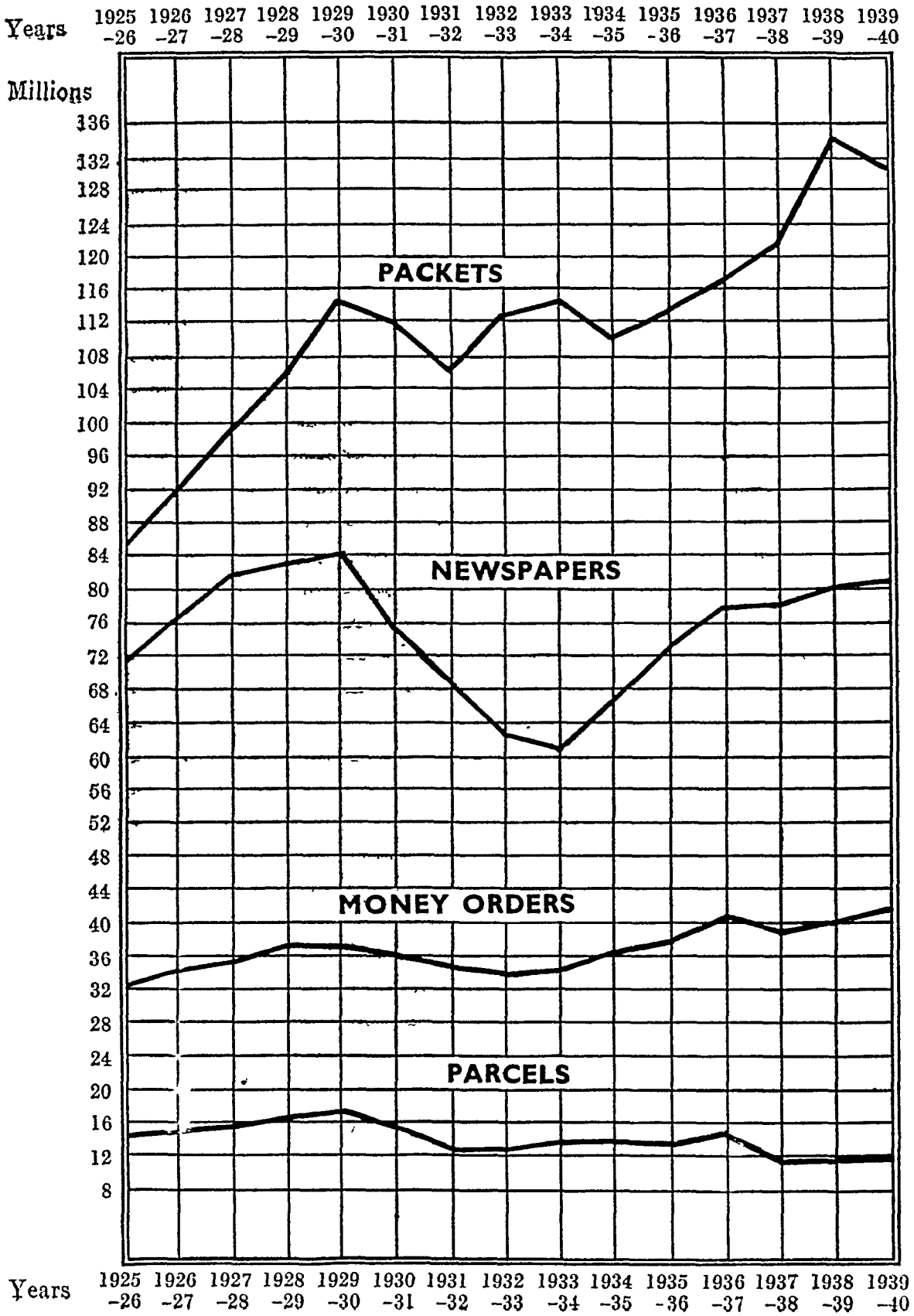


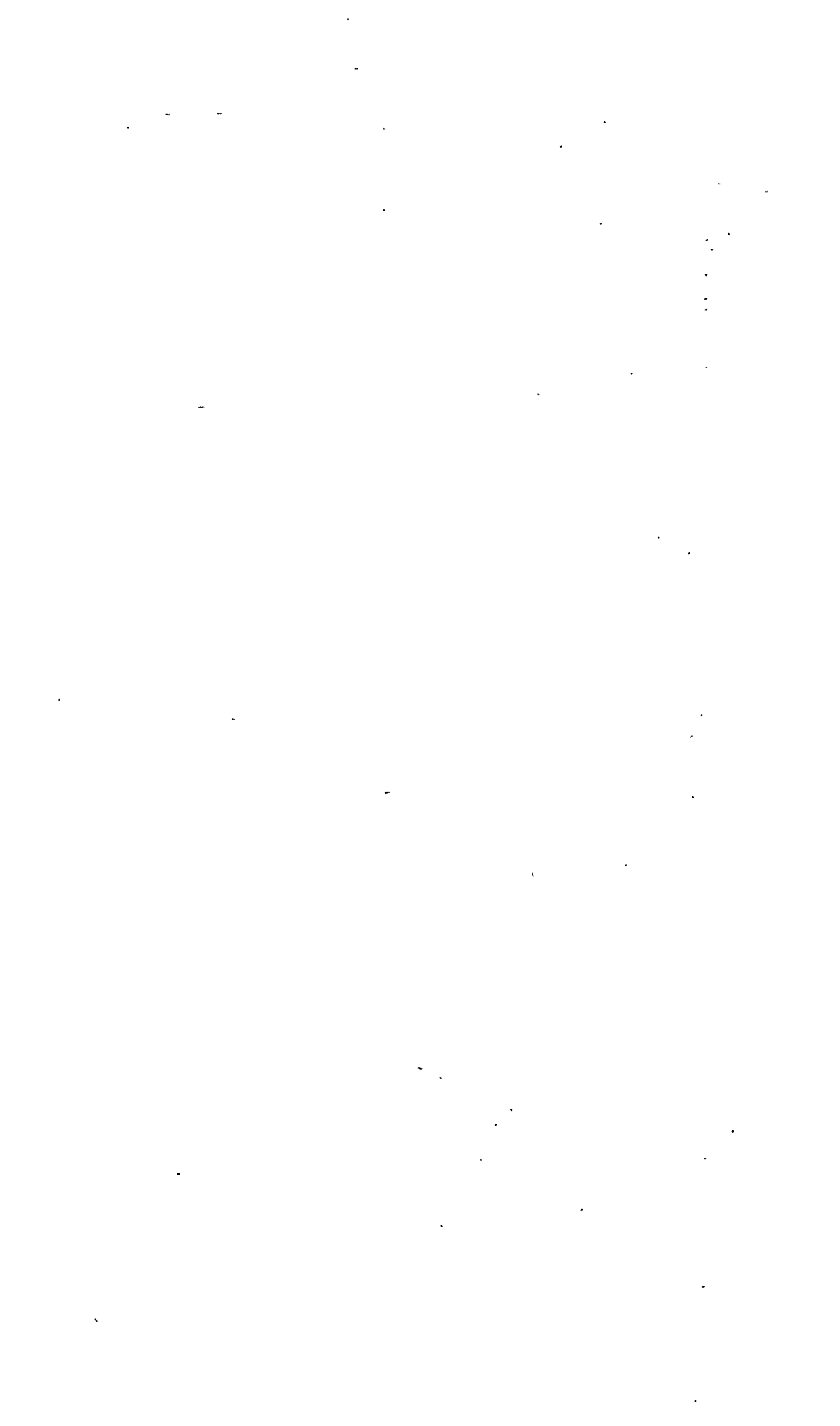


# III

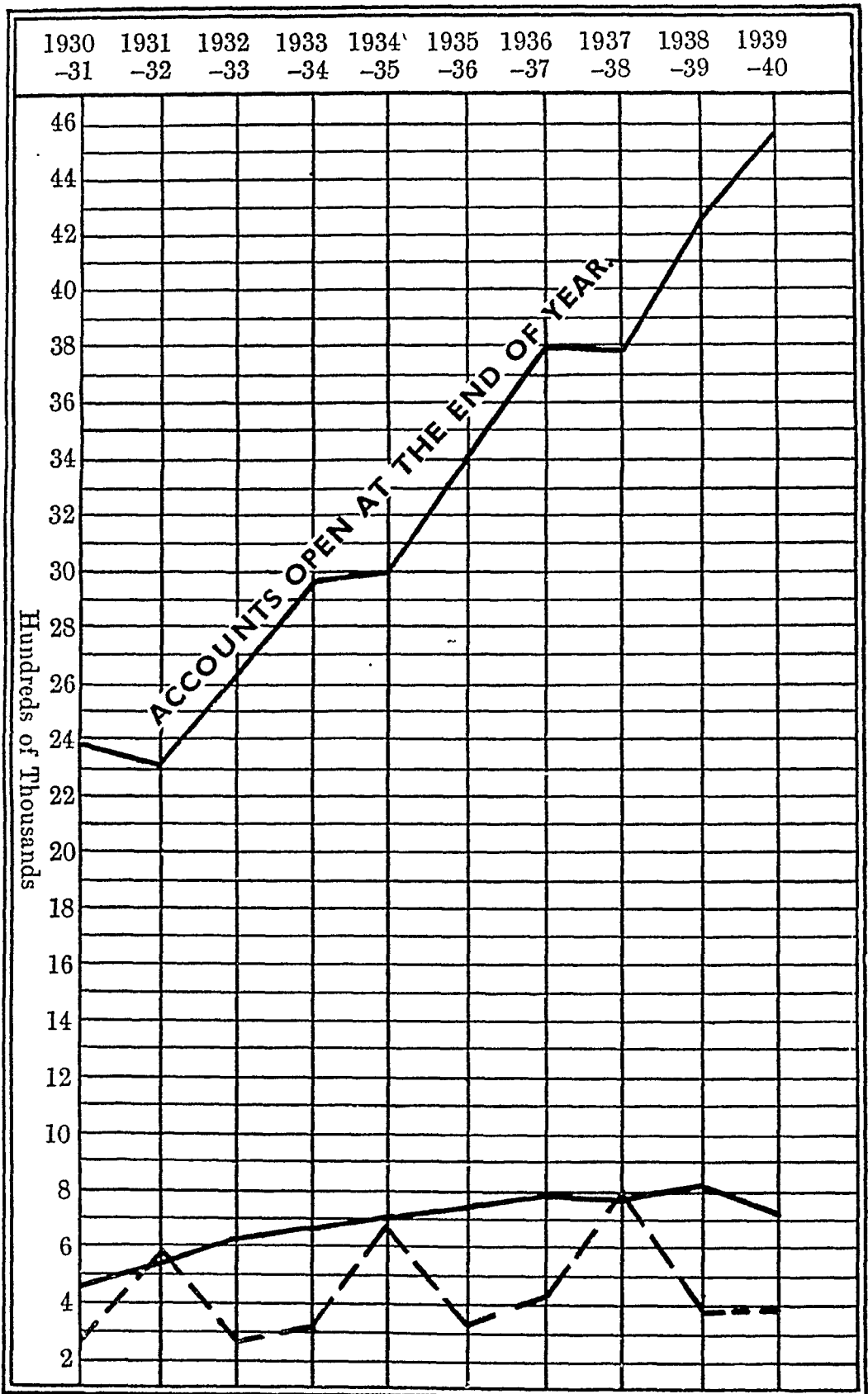
## Number of

### Parcels, Money Orders, Newspapers and Packets.





Number of accounts in the Post Office Savings Bank opened and closed during each year and the number of accounts open at the end of each year.

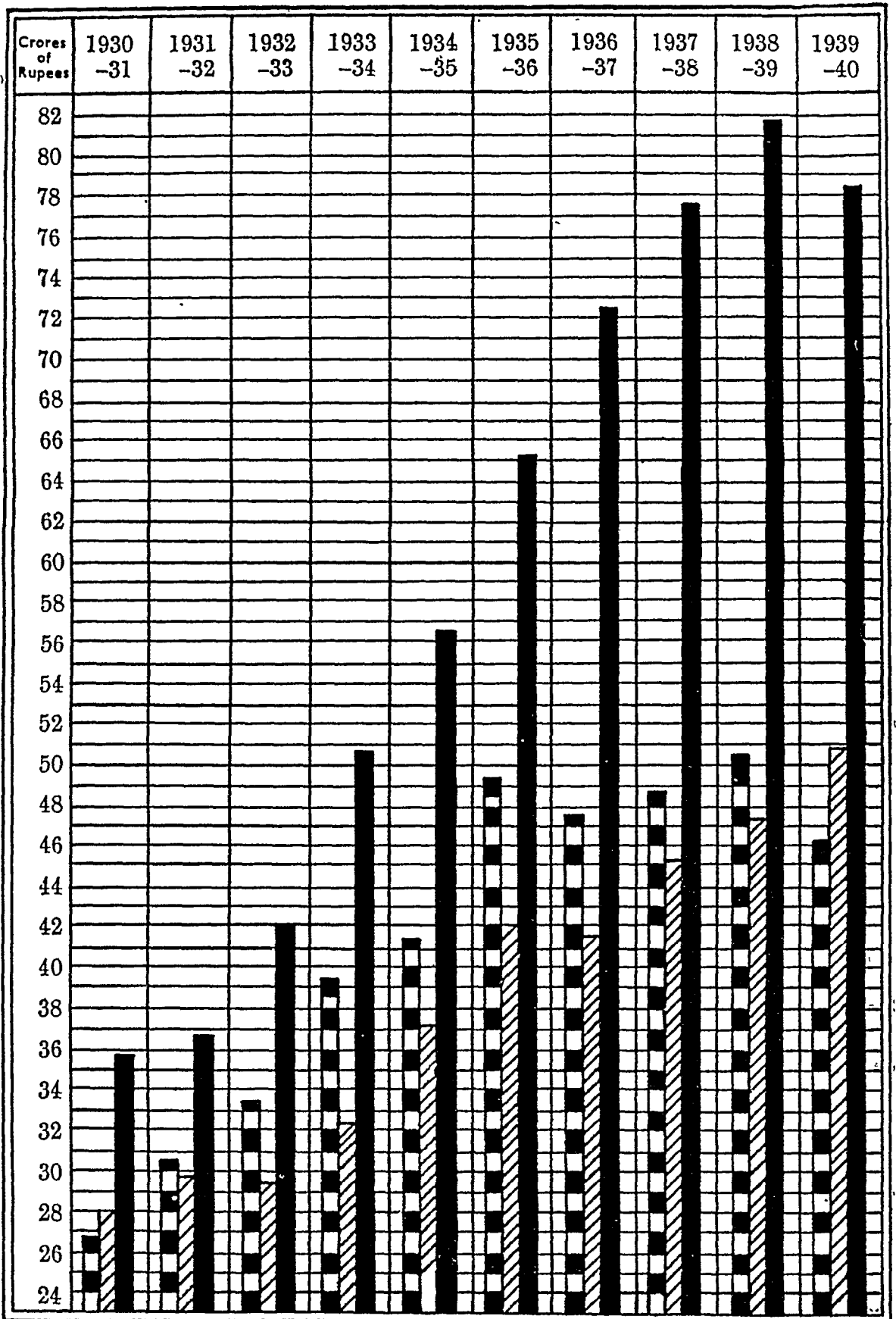


Accounts opened.....  
Accounts closed.....





Total amount of deposits and withdrawals in the P. O. Savings Bank accounts during each year and the total amount in deposit at the end of each year.

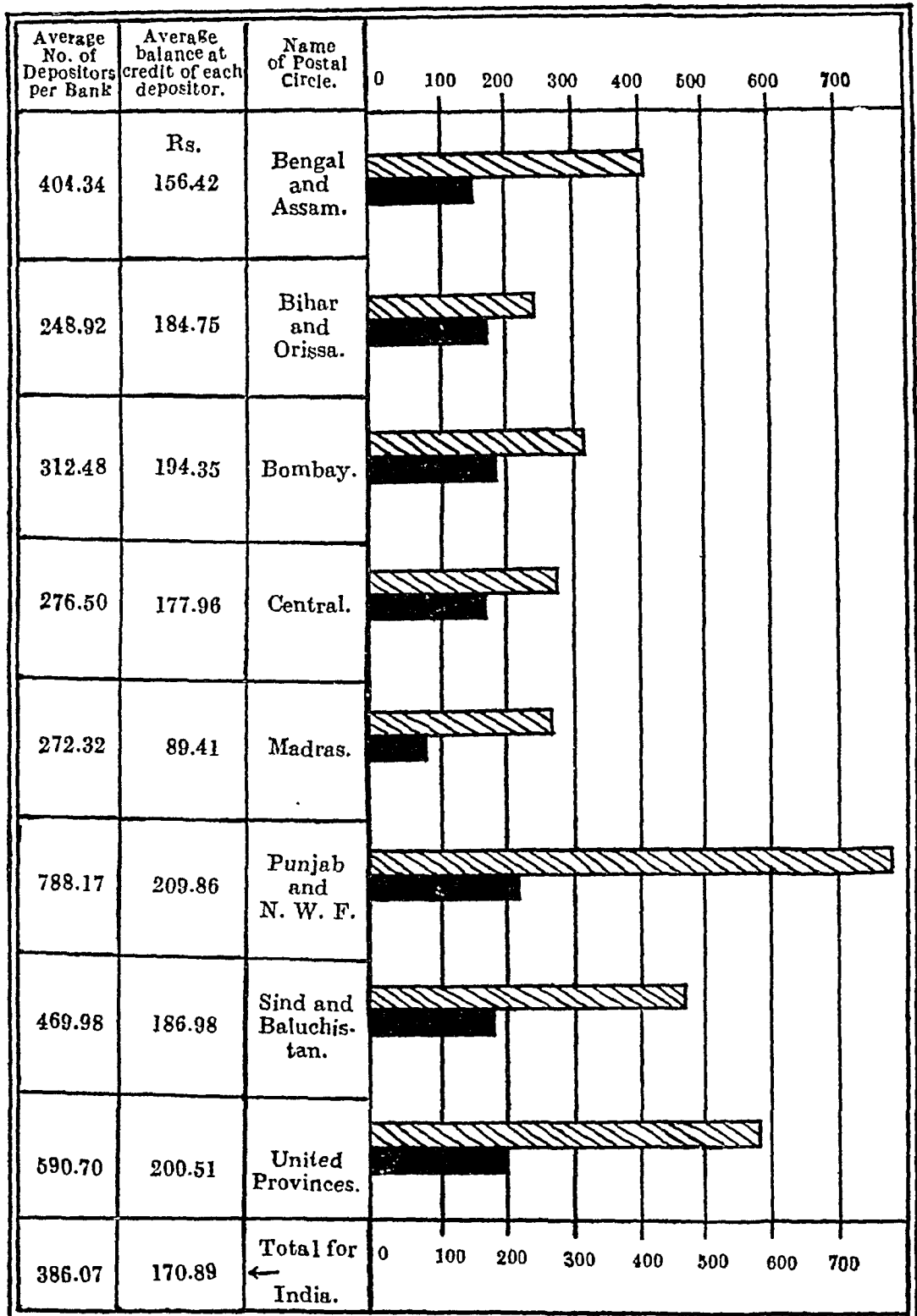




Deposits.....  
 Withdrawals.....  
 Balance at the end of year.....



# VI

Average number of depositors per Savings Bank and average balance at credit of each depositor in each Postal Circle at the end of 1939-40.

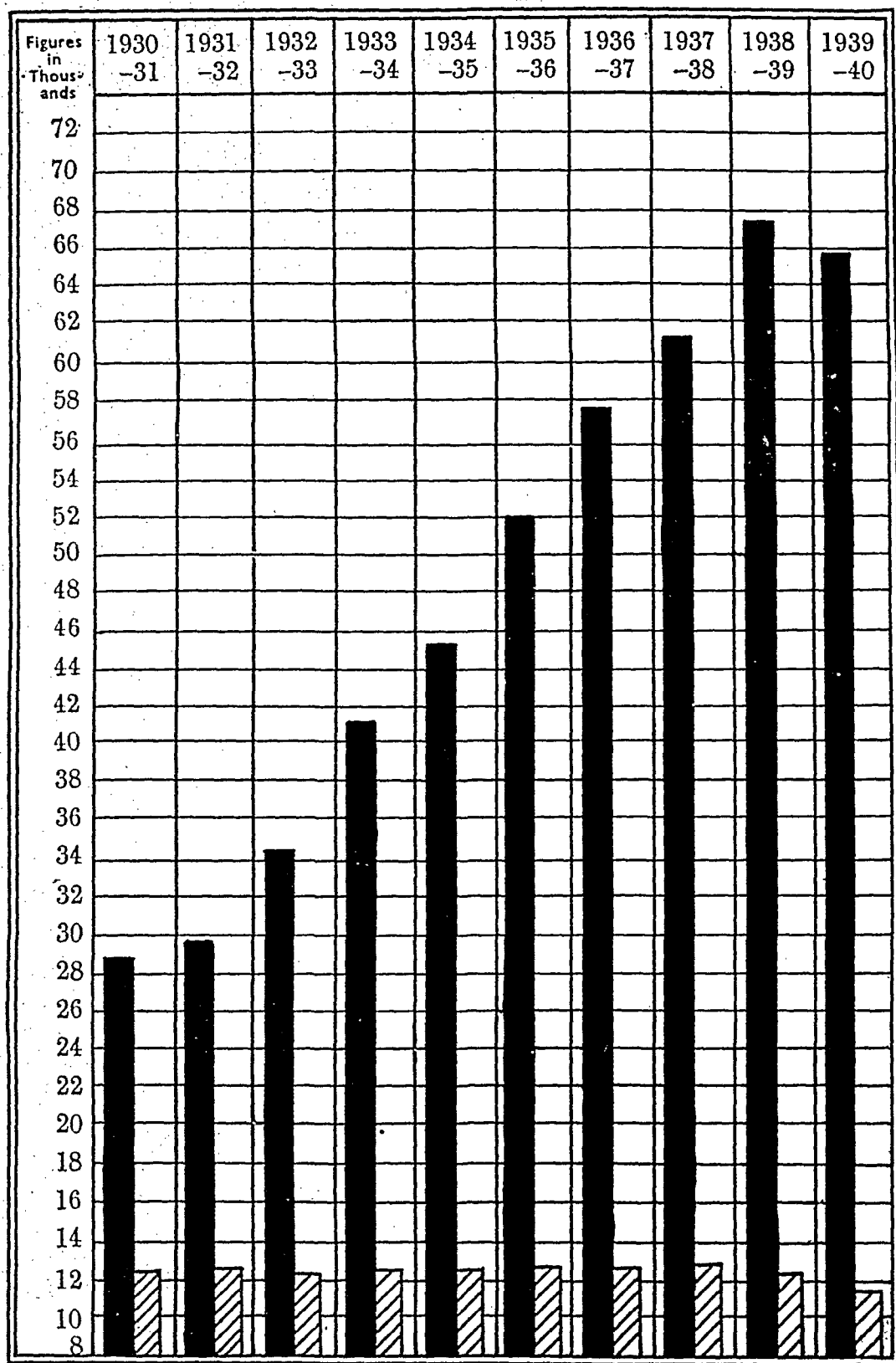




Depositors .....   
 Balance..... 



# VII

Number of Savings Banks and the average balance in each bank at the end of each year.

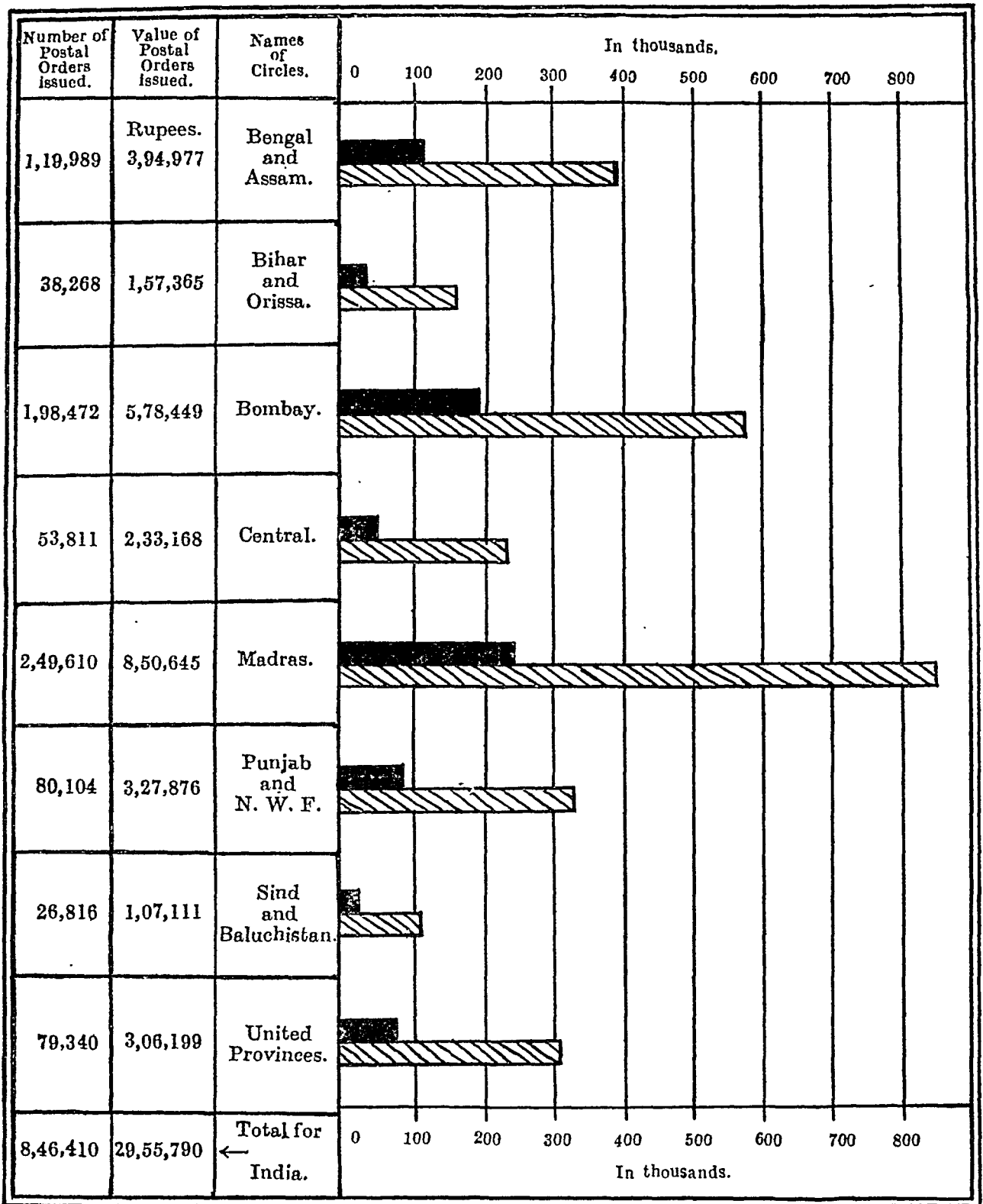


Number of Savings Banks.....   
 Average Balance in each Bank..... 



## VIII

Number and value of Indian Postal Orders issued in each Postal Circle in 1939-40.



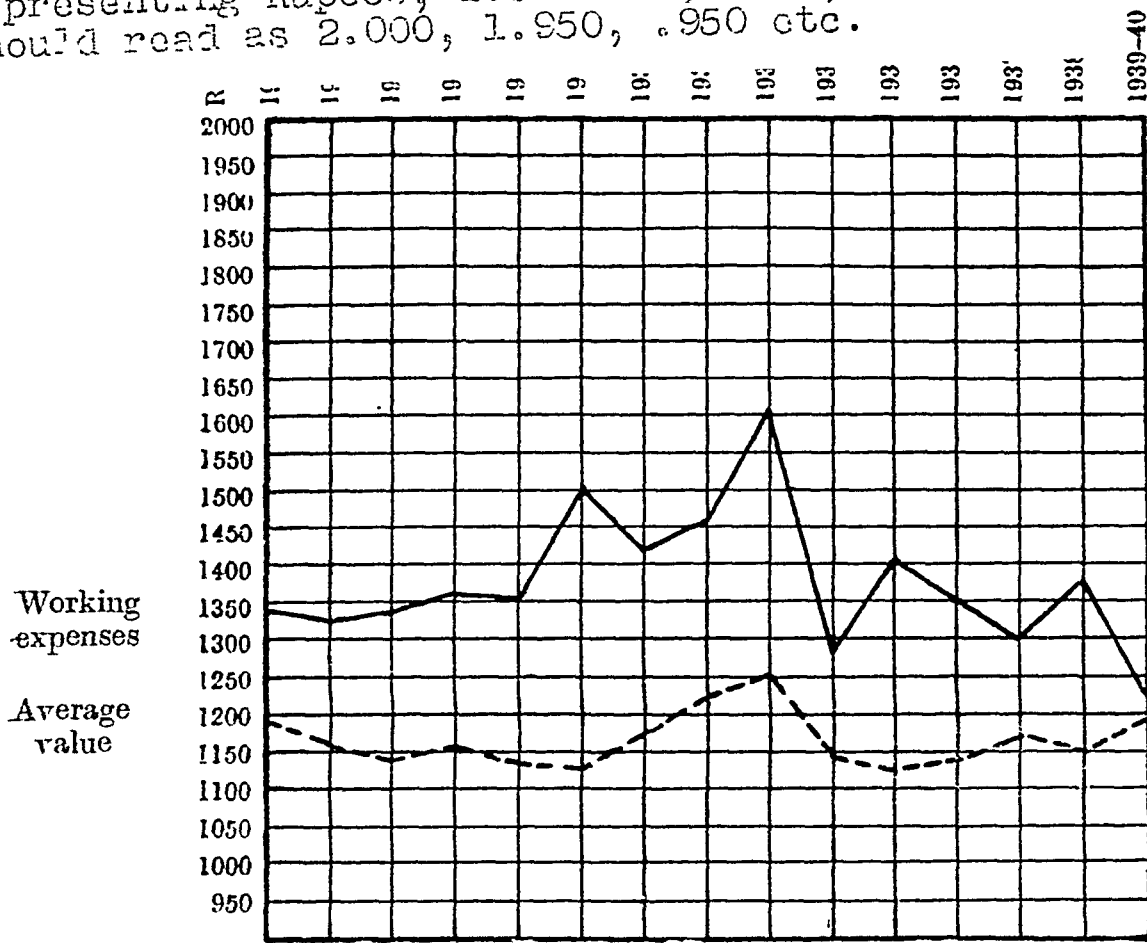
Number.....

Value.....

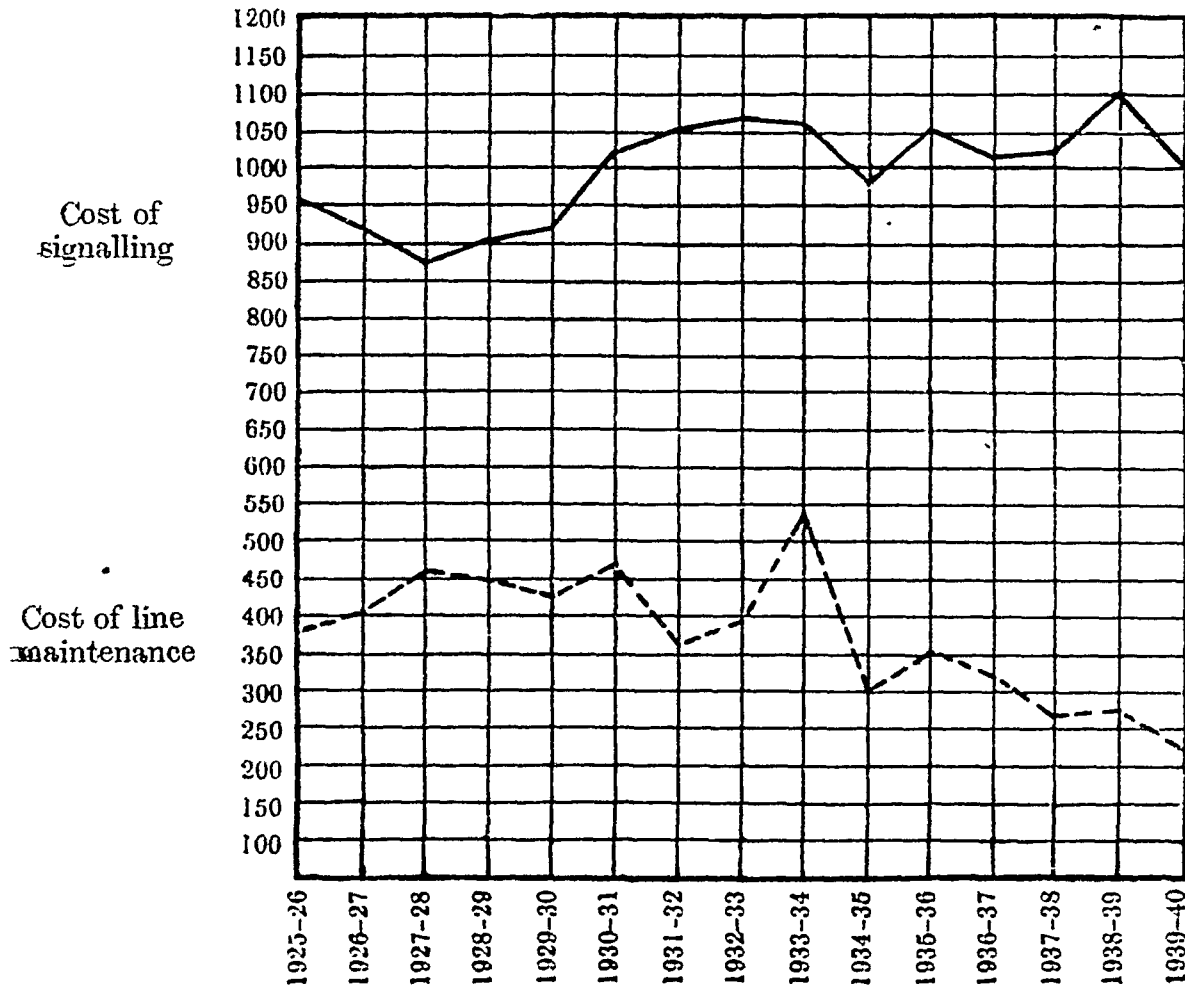


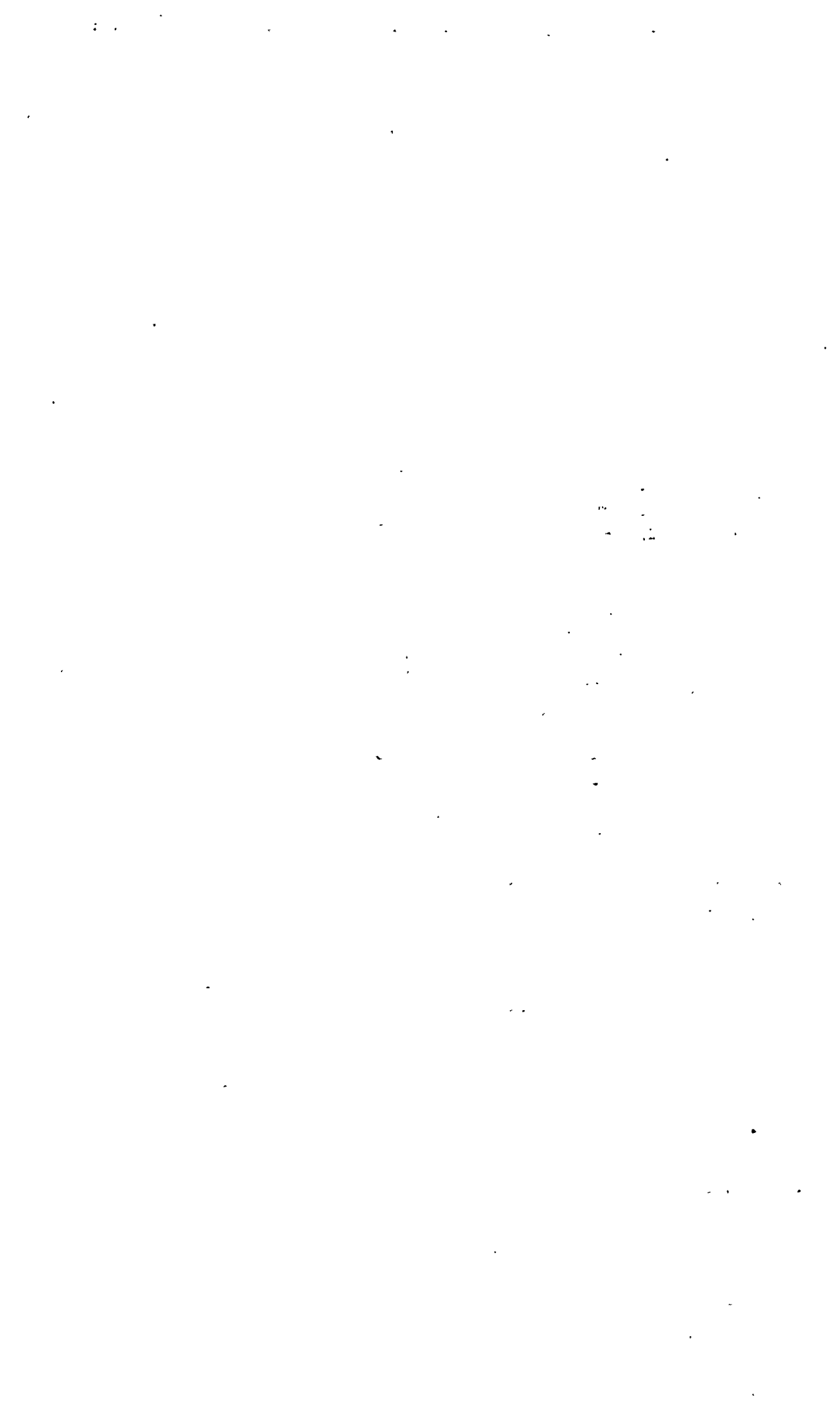


before the last three digits in the figures representing Rupees, i.e., 2000, 1950, 950 etc. should read as 2.000, 1.950, .950 etc.



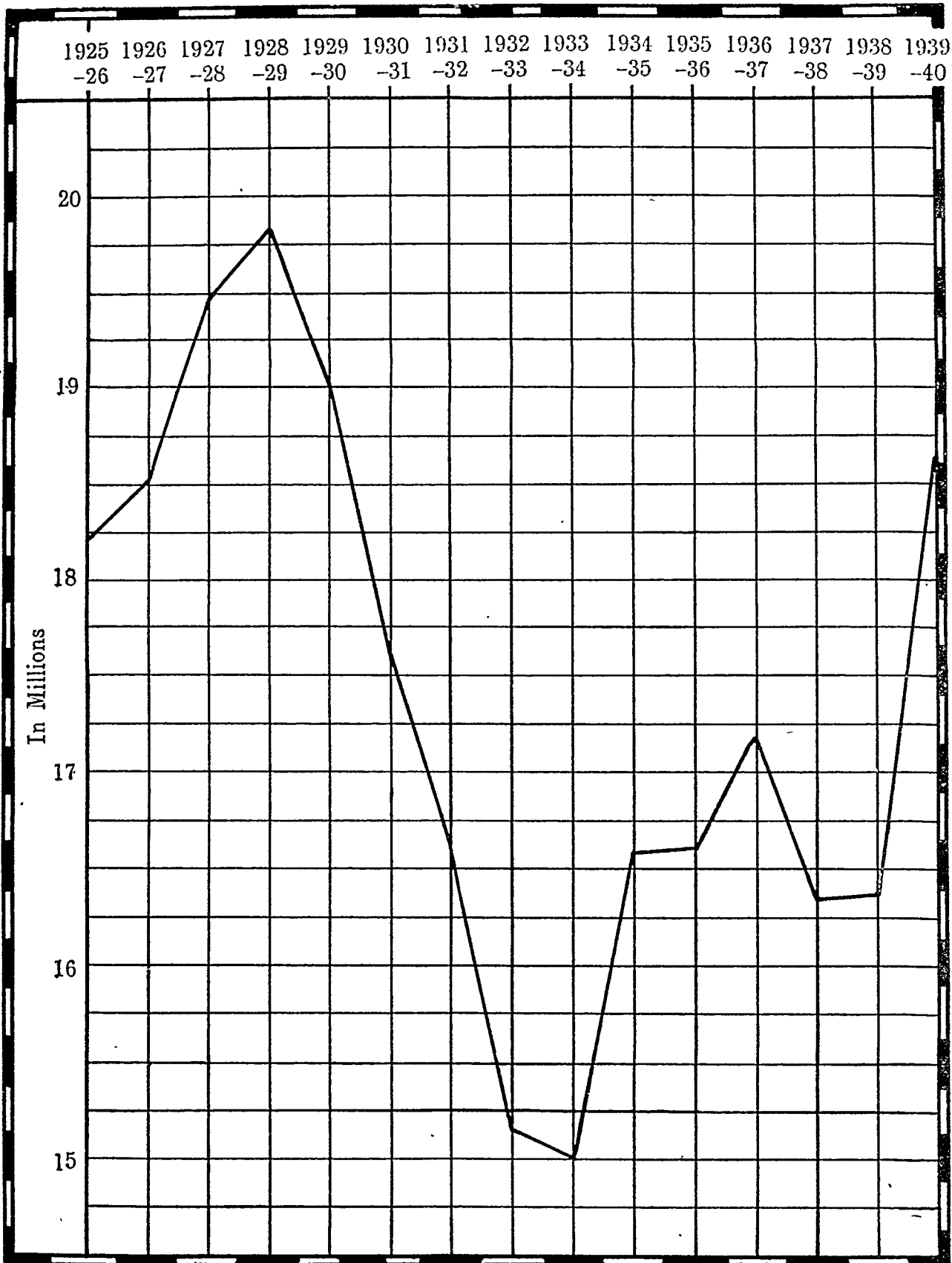
IX.b.





IX.c.

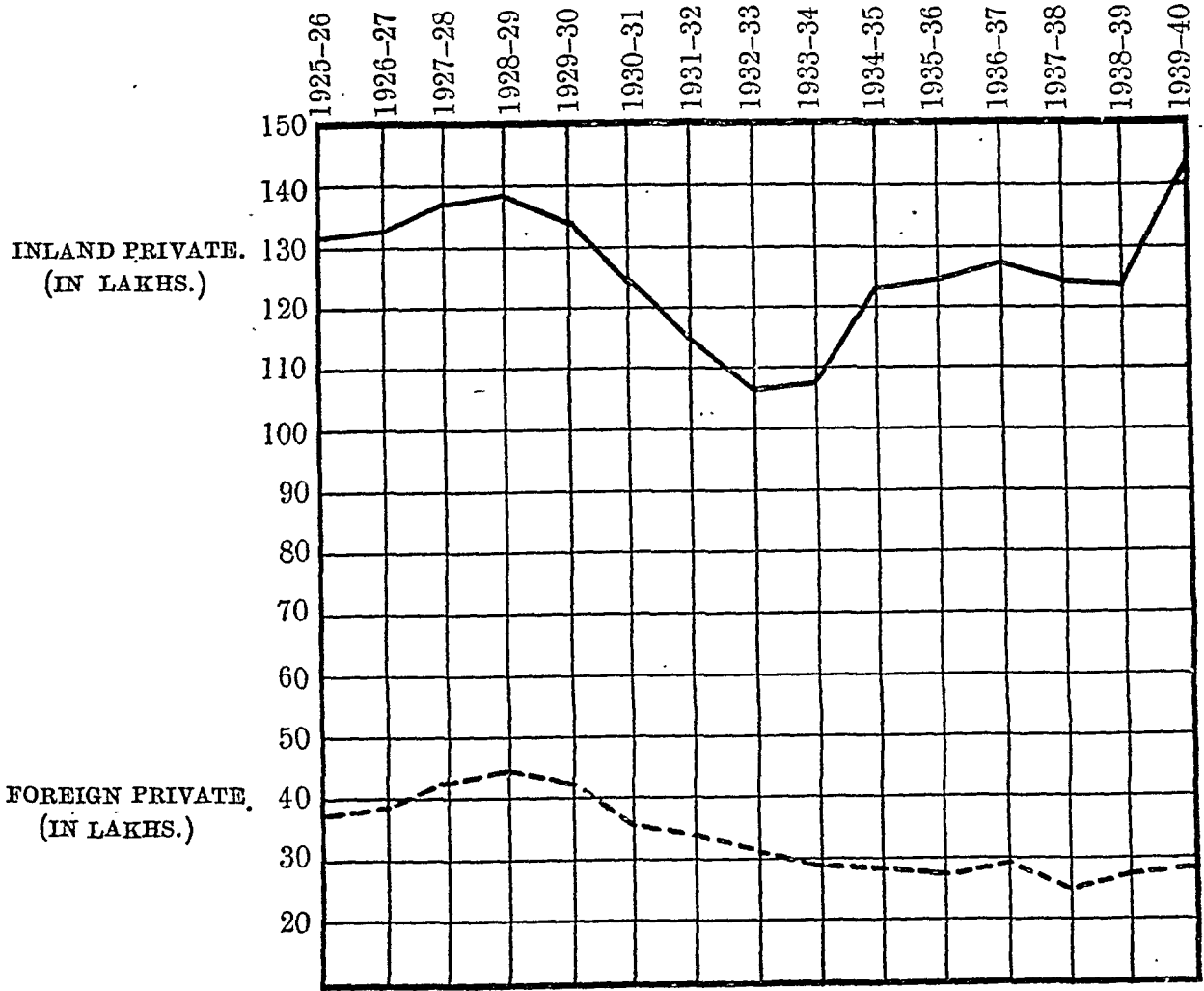
Number of Paid Telegrams  
of all classes.



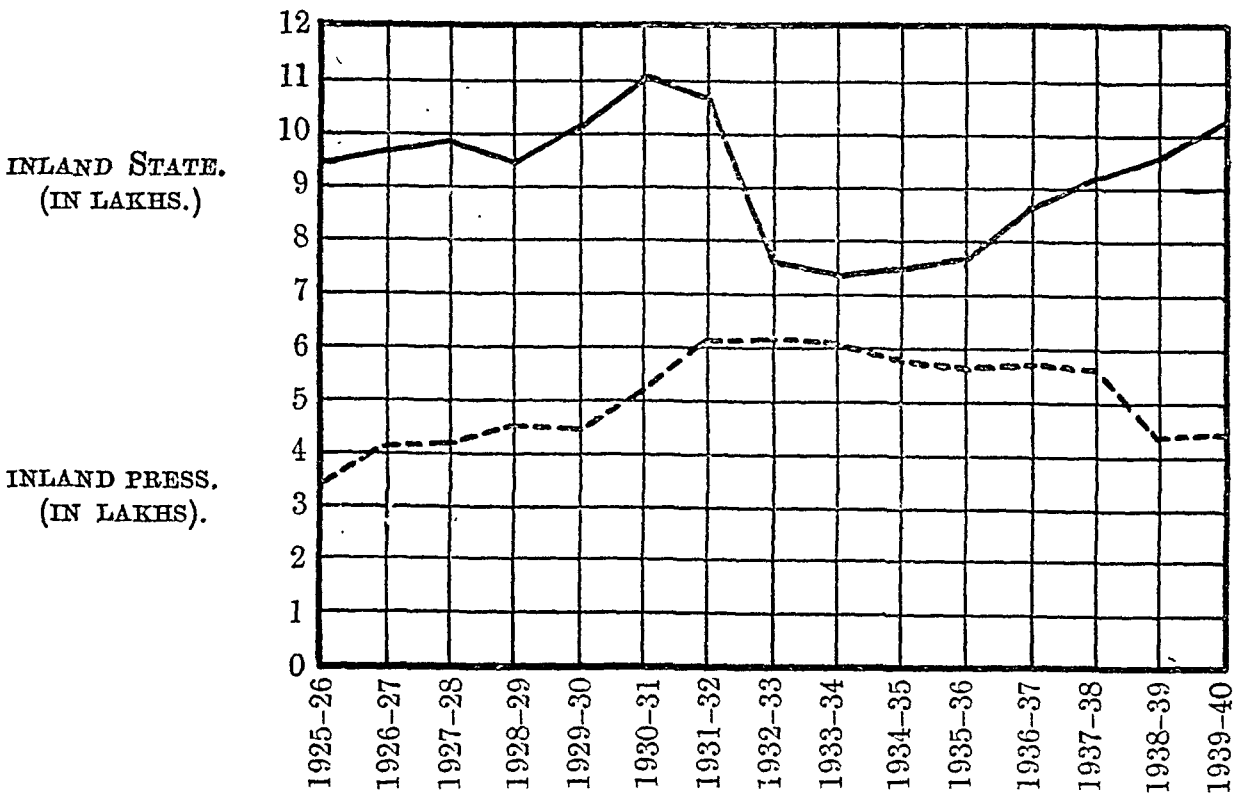


X.a.

Number of Telegrams.



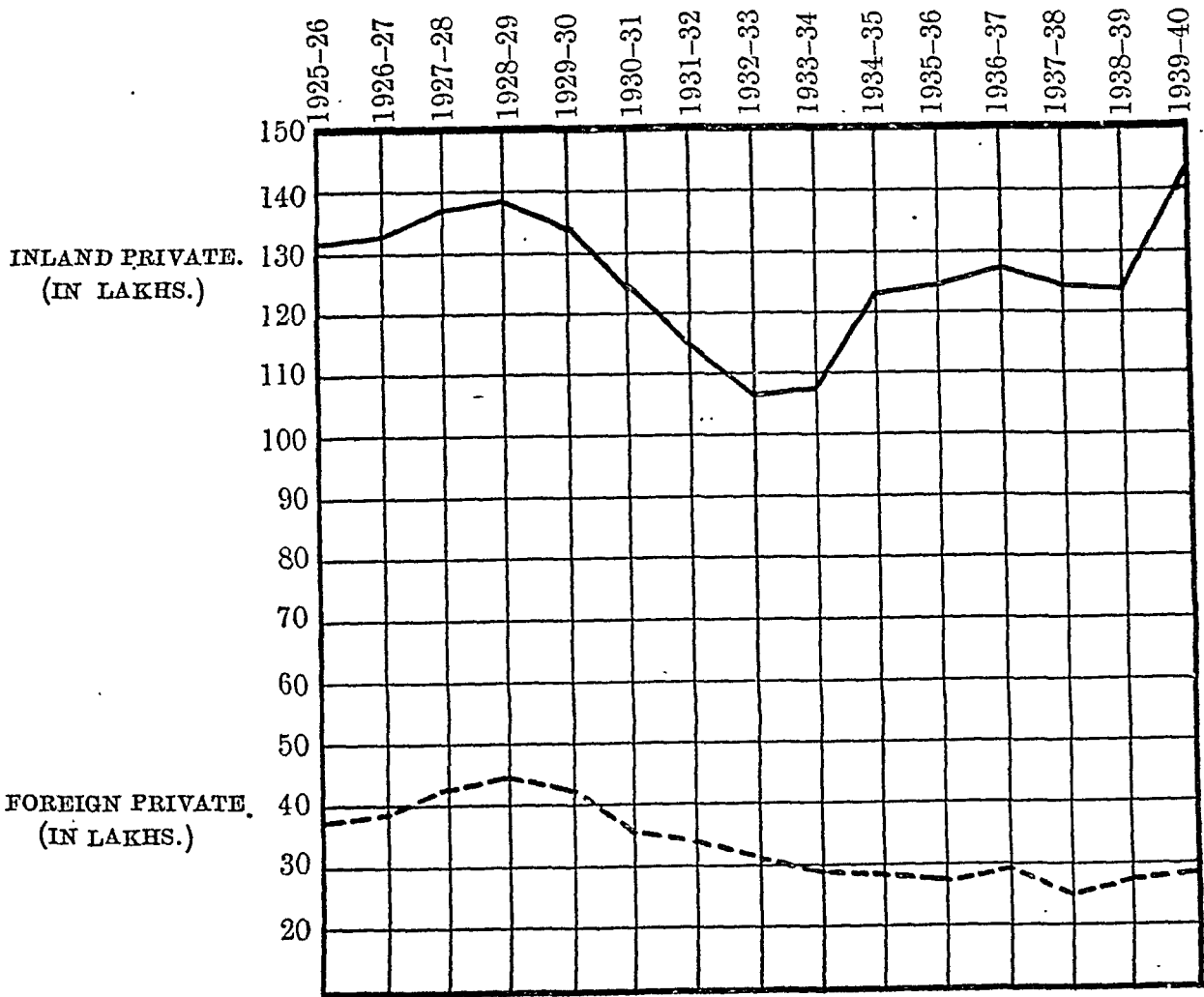
X.b.



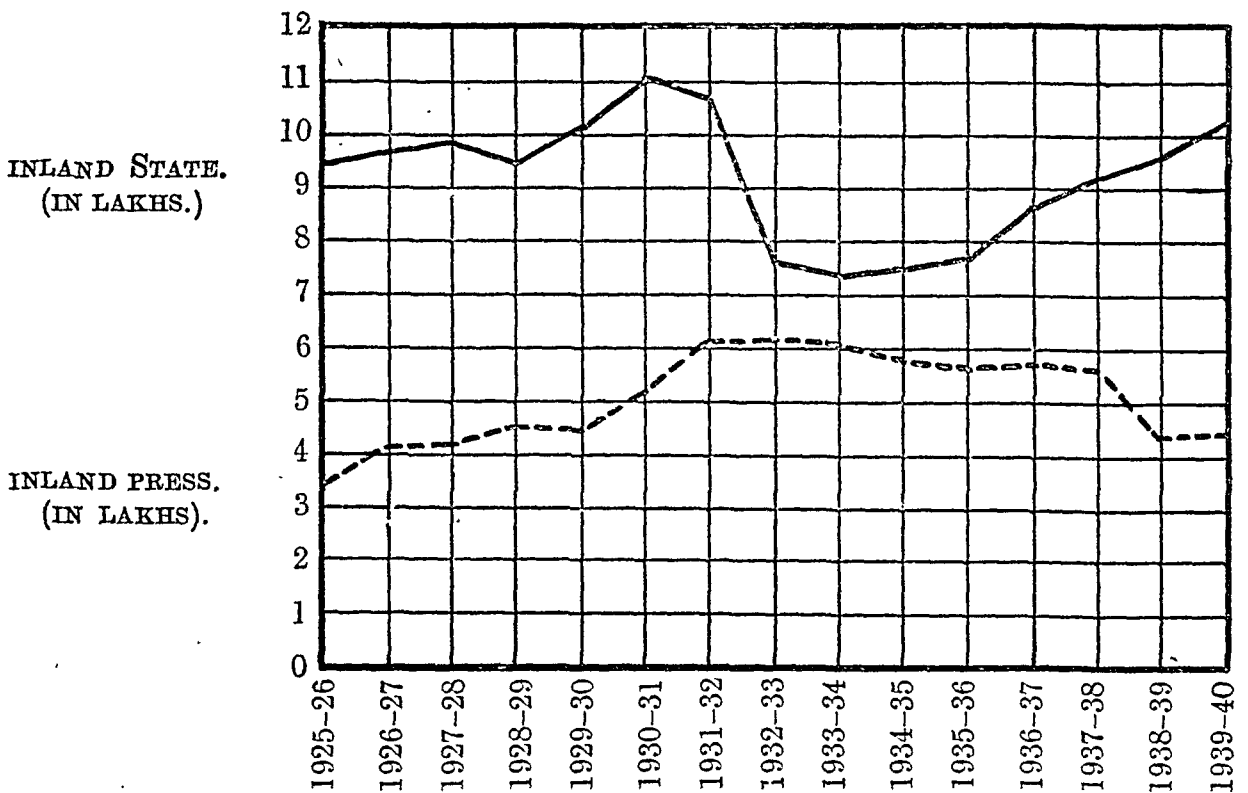


X.a.

Number of Telegrams.



X.b.



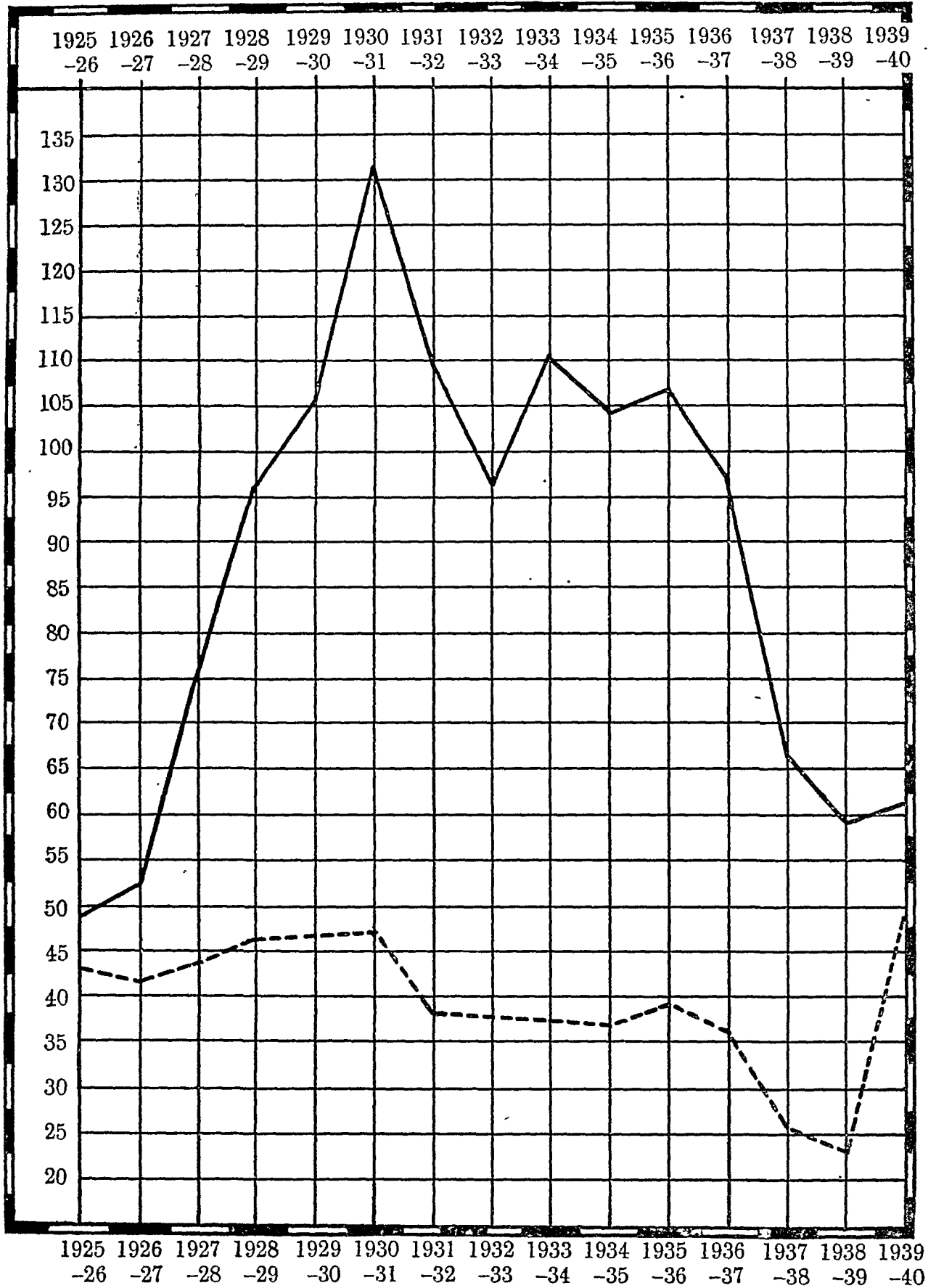




X.c.

Number of Telegrams.

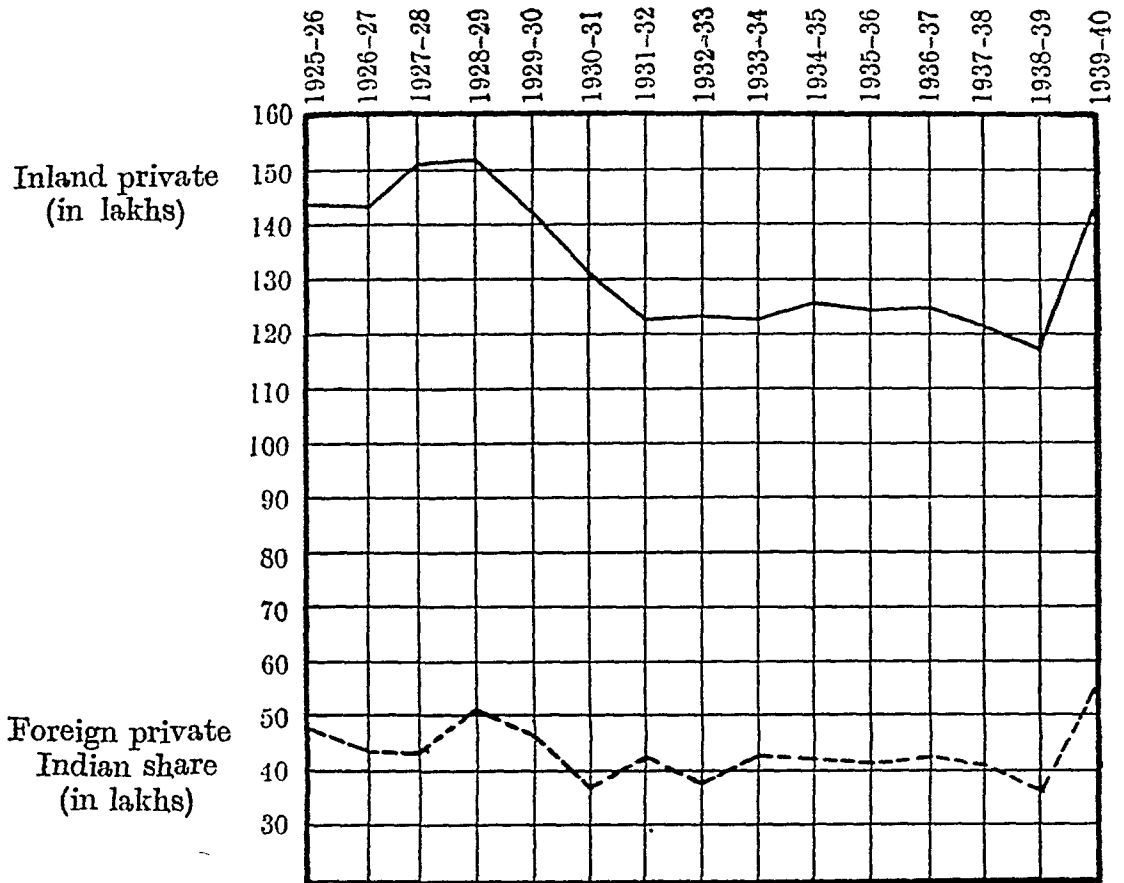
Foreign press Telegrams in Thousands .....  
Foreign state Telegrams in Thousands.....



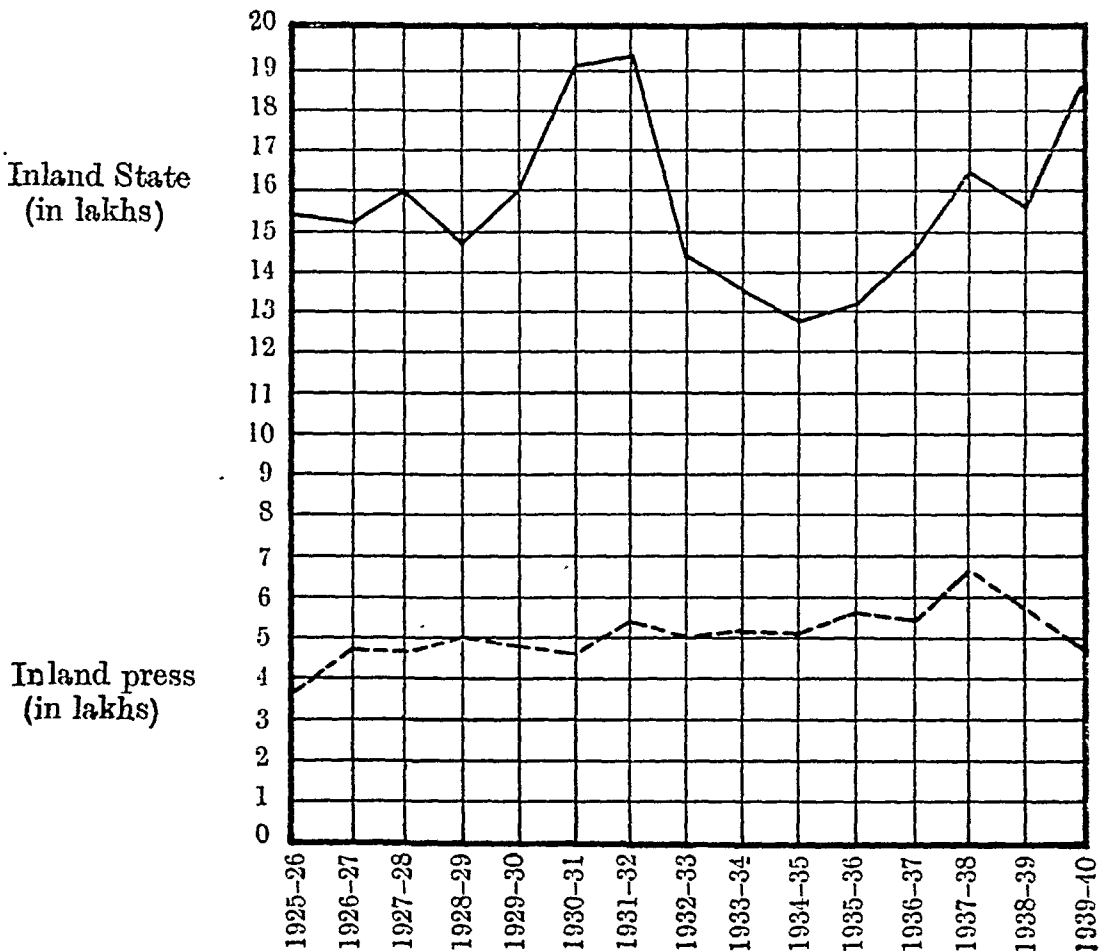


# XI.a.

## Value of telegrams.



# XI.b.

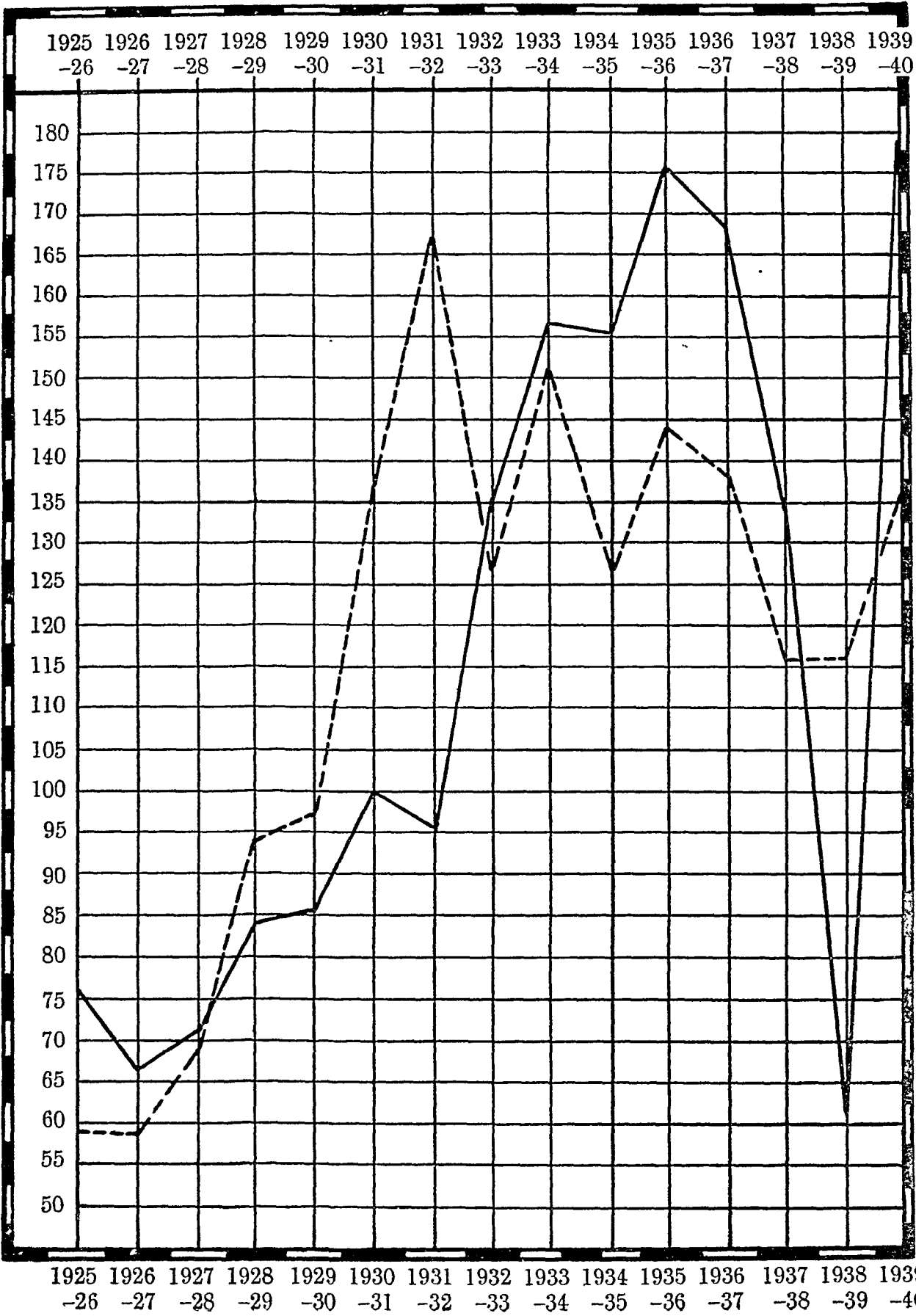




Value of Telegrams.

Indian share of Foreign state Telegrams in Thousands of Rupees .....

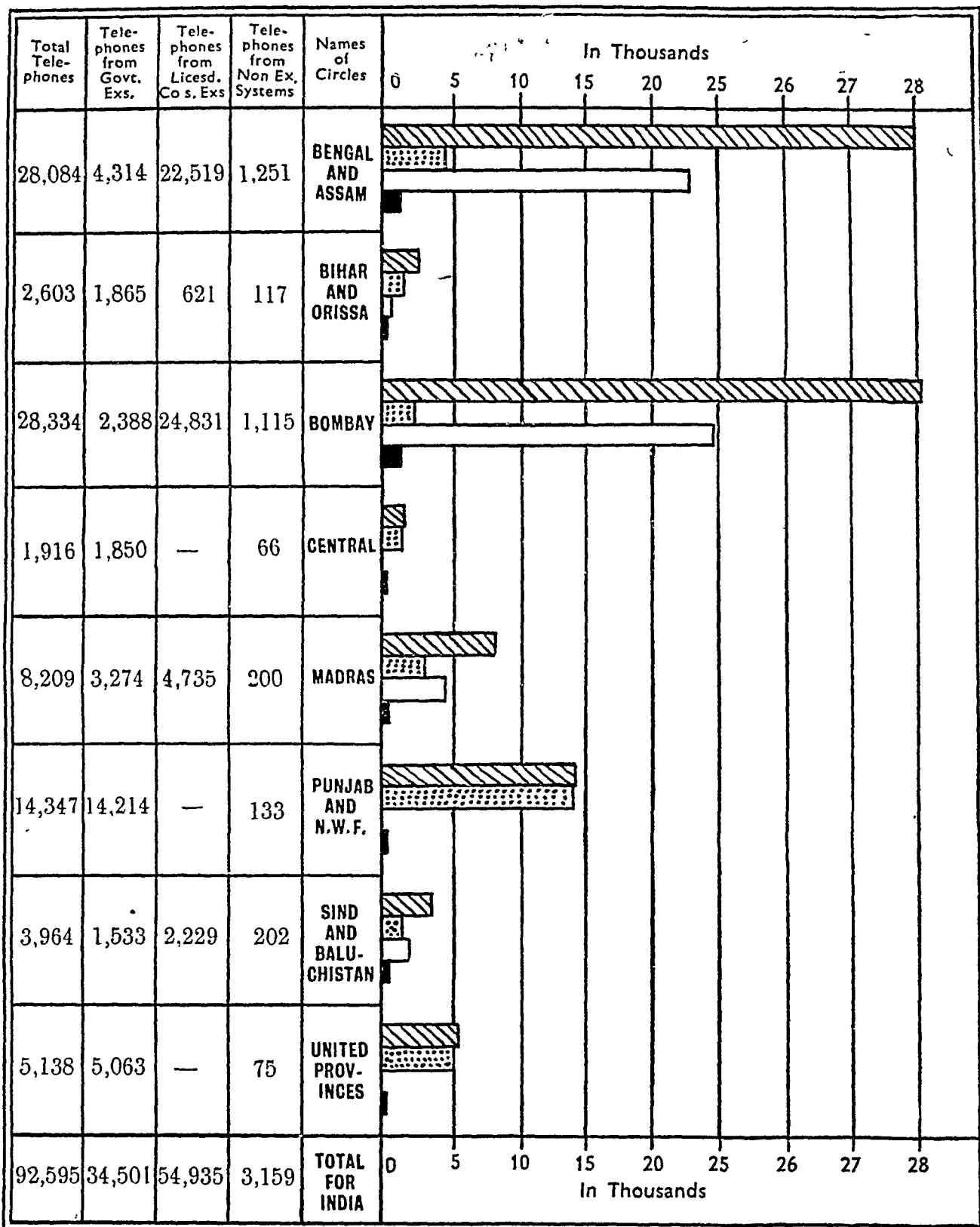
Indian share of Foreign press Telegrams in Thousands of Rupees.....





# XII

Number of Telephones in each Postal circle on the 31st March 1940.



Total Telephones .....

Telephones from Government Exchanges .....

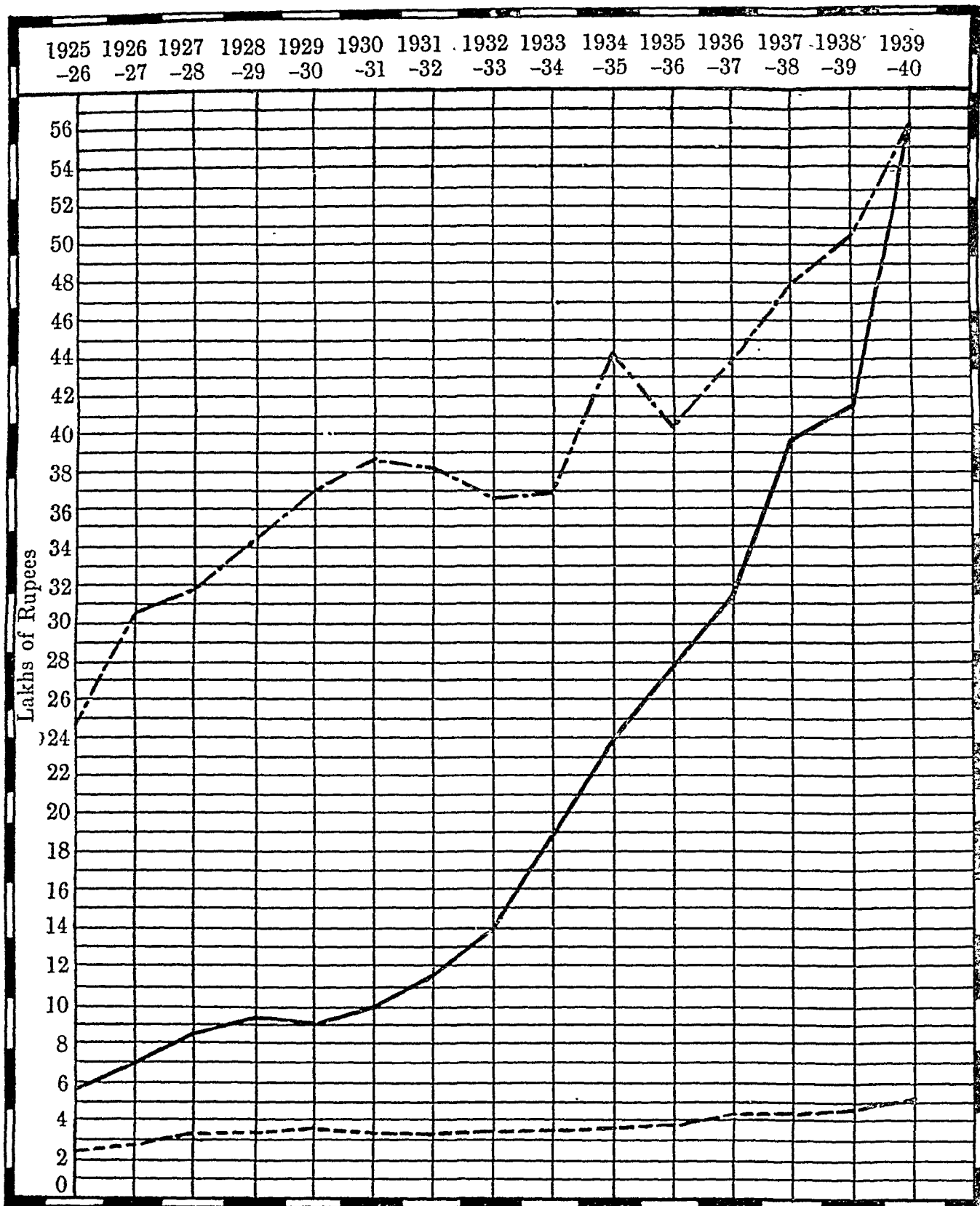
Telephones from Licensed Co.'s Exchanges .....

Telephones from non-exchange systems .....





Growth of revenue from hire of telephones and telephone call fees since 1925-26.



Revenue from hire of telephones.....

Revenue from telephone call fees.....

Revenue from Royalties from Licensed Systems.....



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